Daily Report

Latin America

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CONTENTS

NOTICE TO READERS: An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

Officials Begin Arriving for American Summit *[Hamburg DPA]* 1
Human Rights Organization Questions Agenda *[ACAN]* 1
Andean Pact Foreign Ministers Meeting Ends *[Madrid EFE]* 1

CARIBBEAN

Cuba

Aeronautics Institute Discusses Rectification *[Havana Radio]* 3
Angolan Troop Withdrawal Phase Completed *[Havana TV]* 3
Risquet Meets More Internationalists From Angola *[Havana TV]* 3
U.S. Officers Encouraged To Topple Noriega *[Havana International]* 3
Castro Attends Play in Havana Community *[Havana TV]* 4

Bahamas

Minister Releases Statistics on AIDS *[Nassau Radio]* 4
Dramatic Increase in Violent Crime Reported *[CANA]* 5

Haiti

France Gives Fr70 Million Credit to CAMEP *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* 5
Union Plans 'Government Terrorism' Conference *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* 5
CEP Meeting With Leaders on Election Calendar *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* 6
Bel-Air MOP Announces Change of Name *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* 6
Debt Committee Groups Called Leftist *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* 6

MEXICO

Manley Arrives To Discuss Economic Ties *[Bonaire Radio]* 7
Salinas Comments on Relations With U.S., Spain *[Barcelona LA VANGUARDIA 4 Oct]* 7
Government Continues 'Moralizing' Campaign *[Madrid EFE]* 7
PAN Explains Alliance With PRI on Reforms *[THE NEWS 20 Oct]* 8

CENTRAL AMERICA

Costa Rica

Sandinists: No Bush-Ortega Meeting Planned *[ACAN]* 9
Spokesman on Panamanian Remarks About Arias *[San Jose Radio]* 9
Joint Agreement Signed To Patrol Atlantic Coast *[LA NACION 17 Oct]* 10
Observers Appointed for Nicaraguan Elections *[LA NACION 19 Oct]* 10

El Salvador

'Strong Protest' Issued to Nicaragua Over Weapons *[San Salvador TV]* 10
Cristiani Accuses FMLN of Minister's Murder *[San Salvador TV]* 11
Colonel Ponce Says FMLN Orders Assassinations *[EL DIARIO DE HOY 21 Oct]* 11

FMLN Issues Communique on Government Proposals *[San Salvador Radio]* 12
Government Immigration To Deport 19 Colombians *[San Salvador TV]* 13

Honduras

Azcona Meets U.S. General; Discusses Aid *[EL HERALDO 25 Oct]* 13

Nicaragua

U.S. Comes Under Criticism for Contras, UNO 14
Ortega Comments on Involvement *[Managua Radio]* 14
Pro-Regime Groups Denounce Aid *[Hamburg DPA]* 14
PSC Leader Scores U.S. Actions *[Managua Radio]* 14
FSLN Files Complaints Against UNO, Contras *[Managua TV]* 15
Argentine President To Visit, Meet With Ortega *[Managua Radio]* 15
Mexican Paper Interviews Interior Minister *[EXCELSIOR 22 Oct]* 15
Ortega Urged To Honor Human Rights Commitments *[Managua Radio]* 16
PSC Official Accuses LA PRENSA of Bias *[Managua TV]* 17

Panama

Noriega: Time for 'Others' To Bear Sacrifices *[Hamburg DPA]* 17
Captain Licona Describes Situation of Soldiers *[San Jose Radio]* 17
Leader's Summit Topics Include Country Situation 18
Opposition Departs for Meeting *[ACAN]* 18
'Bribes' Rejected Over Treaties *[EXCELSIOR 20 Oct]* 18
Opposition Denies Treaty Pact *[ACAN]* 19
Endara on Dictatorship *[ACAN]* 20
Columnists Deride Meeting *[LA REPUBLICA 24 Oct]* 20
'Liberation Trails' on Media, Elections *[Panama City Radio]* 20
Foreign Minister Swears In New Deputy Minister *[Panama City TV]* 21
Price Control Office Set To Lower Prices *[LA REPUBLICA 18 Oct]* 21
Group Formed To Consolidate Tenets of Torrijism *[Panama City TV]* 22
FENASEP Leader Concerned Over New Measures *[Panama City TV]* 22

SOUTH AMERICA

Argentina

Menem Minimizes U.S. Decision on Arms Embargo *[Buenos Aires Radio]* 23
Ambassador to U.S. Reports on Meeting With Bush *[Buenos Aires Radio]* 23
President Menem Addresses Grain Market *[Buenos Aires Radio]* 23
Cavallo Briefs Senators on Falklands Negotiations *[NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS]* 25
Water Cannon, Tanks at Union Headquarters *[NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS]* 25
Fishing Deputy Secretary Sotero in Soviet Union *[Buenos Aires Radio]* 26
Medellin Cartel Investments in Uruguay Reported *[Madrid EFE]* 26

Chile

PCCh Secretary Disavows Violence Policy *[Santiago Radio]* 26
Polar Expedition To Climb Mount Vinson *[Santiago Radio]* 26
Comparison of 'Pinochet's High Command Reshuffle 27

Colombia

Rodriguez Gacha on Ceasing Offensive Actions *[AFP]* 27
Criminals Linked to Medellin Cartel Arrested *[Bogota TV]* 27
ELN Attacks Norte de Santander Villages *[Bogota TV]* 28

Ecuador

Brazilian President Arrives on Official Visit *[AFP]* 28

Paraguay

Christian Democratic Party Launches Publication *[EL DIARIO 25 Oct]* 28
Judge Orders Extradition of Spanish Citizen *[ULTIMA HORA 25 Oct]* 28

Peru

'Terrorists' Bomb Soviet, PRC Embassies *[Madrid EFE]* 29
Foreign Minister on Bolivian Sea Outlet Claim *[Lima TV]* 29

Officials Begin Arriving for American Summit

PA2610004089 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 2152 GMT 25 Oct 89

[Text] San Jose, 25 Oct (DPA)—Guyanese President Desmond Hoyte became the first head of state to arrive for the American summit that will be held in Costa Rica on 27-28 October.

Hoyte arrived on the same PAN AM commercial flight as OAS Secretary General Joao Baena Soares.

Hoyte stated: "We give a lot of importance to this summit in Costa Rica, a country that is an example of democracy in the hemisphere."

Uruguayan President Julio Maria Sanguinetti will arrive tomorrow at 1400. The arrivals of Lynden Pindling, Bahamas; Ramsewak Shankar, Suriname; and Brian Mulroney, Canada are scheduled for the evening.

The rest of the participants will arrive between 0600 and 0900 on Friday.

Costa Rican President and Nobel Peace Prize winner Oscar Arias today said that "it is appropriate to mention that 19 heads of state will meet to talk about democracy on our continent."

Arias said that "Costa Rica feels proud of this summit and feels proud to emphasize democracy."

Human Rights Organization Questions Agenda

PA2510145889 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1318 GMT 25 Oct 89

[Text] San Jose, 25 Oct (ACAN - EFE)—The Central American organizations which defend human rights questioned on 24 October the fact that this topic has not been included on the agenda of the presidential summit to be held here this coming 27 and 28 October.

Honduran Ramon Custodio, president of the Commission for the Defense of Human Rights in Central America (CODEHUCA), stated at a news conference that the absence may be due to an agreement reached by the presidents, because some of them "are part of the systems that engage in violating" these rights.

He stated that the human rights situation in Central America "is serious in Guatemala, El Salvador, and Honduras, and in South America, Colombia and Peru particularly."

"Representatives or heads of state who are coming from those countries (to attend the summit) know perfectly well that they have serious problems regarding human rights," he added.

He said that despite the fact that there are more than 90,000 persons reported missing in Latin America, the presidents do not want to discuss this reality.

Custodio stated that the negative situation of human rights has not varied in Central America, despite the signing by the area presidents on 7 August 1987 of the peace agreement known as Esquipulas II. He said that human rights continue to be violated, to a greater or lesser degree, in all Central American countries.

CODEHUCA, which will try to deliver a letter to the presidents in Costa Rica to celebrate the centennial of that country's democracy, considered the 7 August 1987 meeting positive, and said "it is important" that the human rights topic be discussed at each agenda point.

At the meeting democracy, development, disarmament, deforestation, drugs, and the foreign debt will be discussed. President Arias, however, said on 24 October that at the summit "we will demand liberty and respect the rights of men above and beyond our borders."

Andean Pact Foreign Ministers Meeting Ends

PY2210225089 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0320 GMT 22 Oct 89

[Text] La Paz, 21 Oct (EFE)—The second special 2-day meeting of the Andean Pact foreign ministers concluded today in La Paz. Several agreements aimed at accelerating the integration process in the region were signed.

Bolivian Foreign Minister Carlos Iturralde, who was also the host, said that some mechanisms designed to accelerate the Andean process were adopted at the meeting. Bolivia, Peru, Ecuador, and Colombia are members of the Andean Pact.

Iturralde said that the Andean Pact foreign ministers will meet again on 15 December in Guayaquil (Ecuador) to prepare the presidential summit to be held on 16-17 December in the Galapagos Islands, Ecuador.

"We believe that it is urgent to accelerate the integration process and to adopt effective measures for this purpose," Iturralde said at the end of the meeting and after handing the press a 5-point document related to the agreements reached at the meeting.

According to the document, the Andean Pact ministers agreed that the "outlined strategy" contained in the Cartagena Declaration signed by the Andean Pact presidents in May 1989 be submitted to the pact's foreign ministers as soon as possible.

The Andean ministers decided "to promote the indentification of integration projects designed to meet the urgent needs of the Andean Pact member countries so that such programs can be included in the national program for development."

The Andean ministers also asked the Cartagena executive board "to submit an evaluation of the integration process that has taken place since the last presidential summit in Cartagena."

They also agreed to submit to the Andean Pact member countries proposals on adopting specific resolutions and on making Andean Pact activities more dynamic and effective.

Finally the Andean foreign ministers decided to hold their next regular meeting in Guayaquil on 15 December taking into account that the Andean Pact presidential summit will take place on 16-17 December.

Cuba

Aeronautics Institute Discusses Rectification

FL2510133889 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 2330 GMT 24 Oct 89

["Exclusive" interview with Division General Rogelio Acevedo, president of the Cuban Civil Aeronautics Institute (IACC) on 24 October; place not given—recorded]

[Text] As you know, representatives from all IACC units and organizations will hold discussions today and tomorrow on a draft plan for the rectification of errors and negative tendencies in view of the problems and difficulties that exist throughout the entire organization. There is also a plan of objectives for the IACC to undertake from now until the Fourth Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] Congress is held. We will be ready to report back to the Fourth PCC Congress in December 1990 because these problems, the difficulties that we now have in aviation—in Agricula, Cubana [de Aviacion], and Aerocaribe [airlines]—will be resolved.

These were not working correctly. All comrades of the PCC, youth organizations, trade unions, and the administration have told us this. During the time that I have been heading the IACC, we have placed priority on applying a plan for the rectification of errors and negative tendencies to attain the success that we desire and which our commander in chief and IACC Central Committee [as heard] desire.

Angolan Troop Withdrawal Phase Completed

FL2510135689 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 25 Oct 89

[Text] The Ministry of the Revolutionary Armed Forces reports that the Cuban troops that were located north of the 15th parallel in the southern part of the People's Republic of Angola have been mobilized, since 23 October 1989, to north of the 13th Parallel. Thus, Cuba has fulfilled, 9 days ahead of schedule, the second phase of withdrawal of its internationalist troops, in accordance with the agreements reached for a global solution to the conflict in southwestern Africa.

Risquet Meets More Internationalists From Angola

FL2510143089 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 25 Oct 89

[Text] Over 160 internationalist combatants returned to the fatherland last night from the People's Republic of Angola. The group was received at the airport by Jorge Risquet Valdes, member of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee Politburo, and representatives of the Ministry of the Revolutionary Armed Forces and the Ministry of the Interior. All of the just arrived internationalists were wearing the Cuba-Angola Victory Medal, 59 of them [words indistinct], 2 the Calixto Garcia Medal, 1 the Ignacio Agramonte, and 2 the Cuito Cuanavale Medal.

U.S. Officers Encouraged To Topple Noriega

PA2610042089 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 25 Oct 89

["Our America" commentary read by Manolo Ortega]

[Text] After the failed coup d'etat on 3 October, the United States began to consider additional measures it would impose on Panama to topple the canal nation's government.

One of the most twisted steps in this direction was revealed by THE LOS ANGELES TIMES, which pointed out that General Manuel Antonio Noriega, chief of the Panama Defense Forces, will be formally considered Cuban by the U.S. Government in order to apply to him the weight of the embargo in effect against the largest island of the Antilles [Cuba].

The decision includes strictly banning all American firms or citizens from making commercial deals with civilians or military people identified with the sovereign course Panama has taken. In its hysterical anti-Noriega campaign, the U.S. Administration is linking the ranking officer with Cuba, even though what truly prevails in Washington is a systematic view that confuses the contrasting traits of the processes in Nicaragua, Panama, and Cuba.

Dissatisfied with this situation, the U.S. Government is also considering the possibility of barring Panamanian-flagged ships from entering U.S. ports. This measure could force thousands of ships thus flagged for reasons of convenience to register in other nations, which would further reduce the isthmian government's income.

Added to this is the U. S. refusal to grant visas to Panamanian representatives scheduled to participate in the meeting of the Panama Canal board of directors, which is based in U.S. territory.

According to the canal treaties signed in 1977, the four Panamanians on the board of directors must attend these meeting, but this has been impossible because some of the designated delegates have not been granted visas. Concurrently, the White House is planning to issue specific instructions to military officers in their espionage services, and to diplomats from the Latin American nation, so that they can communicate efficiently with potential coupists.

Thus, an eloquent signal has been sent to Panamanian military men to topple the government, and it has been confirmed that on 3 October the coup attempt against Noriega was encouraged by Washington, even though that encouragement was ill-coordinated.

It is clear that the cornerstone of U.S. policy toward Latin America is based upon a sick effort to neutralize Panamanian sovereignty. The White House not only sees in that nation a coveted interoceanic waterway, but also the territory where the Southern Command is based,

where the third largest assemblage of U.S. private investment in Latin America is established, and the headquarters of the region's largest banking center.

The United States is afraid of losing its traditional influence over a country vital to its geopolitical interests.

Castro Attends Play in Havana Community

FL2610023589 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 26 Oct 89

[Excerpts] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, president of the Councils of State and Ministers, has attended the play "Santa Camila From Old Havana" in the Guinera community in this capital. The event was organized by the Cuban Fund for Cultural Properties on the occasion of the Fourth International Forum of Performing Arts hosted by the National Union of Cuban Writers and Artists [UNEAC]. [passage omitted]

Using a 4-story building under construction as a backdrop; the popular play by Jose Ramon Brene was staged in a peculiar setting surrounded by recently-completed housing units and others under construction. Film, television, and theater actors joined over 80 community dwellers to present this popular Cuban theater classic. Director Huberto Llamas did not choose Guinera by chance for the performance. Brene's piece shows the ideological and social transformation of a humble sector of the population in the sixties and, undoubtedly, was part of the reality of the once unhealthy neighborhood. [passage omitted]

Prominent figures from our country's literature and arts, foreign guests, and the people from Guinera attended the staging of "Santa Camila." Guinera residents cooperated with this cultural event, some as actors and others contributed with furniture and personal resources for the staging of the play. Undoubtedly, the goal of the organizers was fulfilled with success: the close link of art with the community.

At the end of the show, the commander in chief congratulated the play's actors and producers and exchanged views with the chief of the Guinera's social minibrigade.

[Begin recording] [Castro] [Passage indistinct] When is it going to be completed?

[Minibrigade chief] By the end of the year.

[Castro] Including this one?

[Minibrigade chief] This one also. This one is at the final stage.

[Castro] How are they functioning?

[Minibrigade chief] Very well, commander. The community is behaving marvelously. They are taking care of their buildings and gardens. I would like for you to come over when you have a chance.

[Castro] [Passage indistinct] I have seen the discipline. At first the girl could hardly talk and shortly after everyone was very quiet.

[Minibrigade chief] How was discipline, commander?

[Castro] Good, very good.

[Minibrigade chief] We are very grateful to the comrades of the Fund of Cultural Properties who have worked with us to carry out this great task.

[Castro] Good, very good. How are you?

[Speaker] Very well. I am delighted to see you again.

[Castro] You are now going to have to perform again because [words indistinct]. It was very good. This was everyone's impression, is this not so? [Words indistinct] We were told that this (?lasted hours). I asked how long it lasted and I was told it lasted 1 hour and 20 minutes. [Passage indistinct] We arrived a little late.

[Second speaker] Miguelito spoke very well and Fifi also spoke.

[Castro] He was the one who said it lasted 1 hour and 20 minutes.

[Third speaker] Commander, we are here representing the Guinera community residents. [laughter]

[Fourth speaker] I think this is very valid. It is very important. It is very important because they were an important and basic and fundamental part of the work of this play. I believe that what they said is very important. They were something else in this play. They were an extremely important factor in the play. [end recording]

Bahamas

Minister Releases Statistics on AIDS

FL2510171989 Nassau Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 25 Oct 89

[Report by Martin Aubery, from the House of Assembly]

[Text] The minister of health, the Honorable Dr Norman Gay, communicated to the House that as of September 30th this year, a total of 377 AIDS cases had been reported and, of this number, 238 have died. Dr Gay said AIDS has so far been reported from eight islands in the country and of the 377 cases to date, 83 percent have occurred in (?Nassau). Dr Gay informed the House that heterosexual transmission of AIDS is now the predominant mode of spread in the Bahamas. It was also noted that during 1987, 53 adult cases were among heterosexuals and, of that number, 33 were cocaine abusers.

Dr Gay said prenatal transmission remains a cause of much concern because of the heterosexual mode of the HIV spread to mothers-to-be. Already, 17 percent of those reported cases have been in children below the age of 3, all born of HIV-positive mothers.

Dr Gay said, in the coming years, the situation will get worse as the number of people infected with the HIV virus is currently increasing.

Dramatic Increase in Violent Crime Reported

FL2510165589 Bridgetown CANA in English 1449 GMT 25 Oct 89

[Text] Nassau, Bahamas, Oct 25, CANA—Authorities here are expressing shock and dismay at the dramatic increase in violent crime and the issue has resulted in a debate as to whether policemen should be recruited from overseas.

Within the last two weeks, six bodies have been discovered in the capital, Nassau. The latest victim, a 12-year-old boy [words indistinct]. The body was battered and his pants pulled down below his knees. Earlier this month, the bodies of five men were found in a woody area in Nassau. Two of them had gunshots to the head. One of the dead men was later identified as the first cousin of Police Commissioner B.K. Bonamy.

"If the manpower of the police force cannot be attained and maintained by Bahamians, ... to police their country, then relief has to be found elsewhere," Minister of Works and Lands Darrel Rolle told parliament.

Acting opposition leader Orville Turnquest also supports the recruitment of foreign police.

A former commissioner of police, Salathiel Thompson, said the Royal Bahamas Police Force was stretched to the limit and can do no more to combat the crime wave.

The government has not stated its position, but the idea of bringing in non-Bahamian police was reportedly put forward by National Security Minister Paul Adderly.

The opposition Free National Movement (FNM) said that the criminal elements in the country have declared war, and "day and night they rape, sodmise, kidnap, and terrorize our society to such an extent that society lives in fear."

Police Commissioner Bernard Bonamy has admitted that the force has a manpower shortage. He said that a crack-down on drug trafficking throughout the Bahamas has contributed to the increase of armed robberies.

The latest crime wave started in mid-August and involves primarily armed robberies accompanied by abductions and rape. Eighteen murders and 21 attempted murders were recorded for the first six months in 1989. Most churches here have barred up their premises because cocaine addicts are stealing church property to maintain their habit.

"If you went to every church in the city you will find some kind of security measure," said Rev. Dr Charles Smith, pastor of the 3,000-member Zion Baptist Church. He said that the public needs to express outrage over the crime situation. "We need to take the bars down from the houses and put the criminals behind bars," he said.

Haiti

France Gives Fr70 Million Credit to CAMEP

FL2510171389 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in Creole 1300 GMT 25 Oct 89

[Excerpts] Within the framework of the public development aid France is giving Haiti, France's Central Treasury for Economic Cooperation, represented by its director in Port-au-Prince, Francois (Vincent), has opened for the Republic of Haiti, represented by its Economy and Finance Minister Leonce Thelusma, a Fr70-million credit to help CAMEP [the national waterworks for the Port-au-Prince metropolitan area] provide better services for its clients. [passage omitted]

This was a press release from the French Embassy in Haiti.

Union Plans 'Government Terrorism' Conference

FL2510171189 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 25 Oct 89

[Text] The Metropolitan Area Public Transport Drivers Union [also known as the Central Union Federation of Transport Workers of the Metropolitan Area] reminds all drivers throughout Haiti, as well as the Haitian masses, that 6 November 1986 marked the independence day of the drivers and the Haitian masses. On that day, all drivers rose up in solidarity like a single man to demand that a military government try one officer from among the many members of the Armed Forces who were sowing insecurity in Haiti.

The masses should learn a lesson from what happened on 6 November 1986, when the drivers made the government try one of these criminals, Adjutant Robes D. Metellus, who had murdered driver Jules Louis inside the barracks in Fond Verrettes.

Government terrorism is neither banditry nor the criminality of drug traffickers, as the general who is interior minister tried to claim during the conference he held, a conference he called a conference-debate.

Due to the fact the police lack means, logistically speaking, the Haitian people are going to help them put an end to insecurity. The Haitian masses are going to organize themselves into vigilance brigades throughout Haiti to put an end to (?the type of) insecurity, the generals (?claim exists).

Next 6 November is a good time for the Haitian masses and all public transportation vehicle drivers to reestablish the chain of solidarity and unite to chase after the government terrorism that is going around sowing death and mourning among the Haitian masses.

At a conference-debate with all the drivers and the Haitian masses to be held on 6 November, we will get together and reflect upon and bear testimony to, in front of the press, all the acts of government terrorism that have been committed against our families and friends.

We ask all drivers throughout Haiti to meet and discuss roads, insecurity, the high cost of living and insecurity. [sentence as heard]

This is a press release sent us by the Metropolitan Area Public Transport Drivers Union.

CEP Meeting With Leaders on Election Calendar

FL2510181889 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1600 GMT 24 Oct 89

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] The meetings between the electoral council [CEP] and political leaders are not over. Following the publication of the electoral calendar, the CEP has been visited by several political leaders, who gave it their comments, criticism, and suggestions regarding the overall organization of elections.

The president of the National Party for the Defense of the Workers, Jean Arnold Dumas, met with the CEP last 16 October. [passage omitted]

For his part, Jean-Claude Roy recommended to the CEP that it maintain the line of democratic overture to arrive at a consensus on elections.

The National Committee of the Congress of Democratic Movements, whose main reservations about the calendar concern the system for organizing the elections, was also received by the members of the CEP. [passage omitted]

The CEP has also met with the coalition made up of the Movement for the Establishment of Democracy in Haiti, the Nationalistic and Progressive Revolutionary Party of Haiti, and the National Patriotic Movement of 28 November. It has also met with the Democratic Movement for the Liberation of Haiti-Democratic Revolutionary Party of Haiti.

The CEP says these consultations, undertaken despite the fact that the electoral calendar has already been published, do not constitute improvisation. CEP spokesman Jean Gerard Pierre said the CEP's democratic attitude needed to be consolidated through these initiatives. The suggestions regarding elections made by political leaders will not merely be listened to by the CEP, says Pierre. Pierre explains that the CEP might meet with all the members present to take a position on this matter, should something need to be done.

[Begin Pierre recording, in Creole] [Passage omitted] We listen to people, and when we listen, we listen seriously—without any ulterior motives. We listen sincerely, really. [passage omitted] We listen and we note.

There are nine of us in the CEP. The entire CEP listens to these people. When we have finished listening to all the proposals, all the advice, and everything that has been said on a given matter, the CEP will meet as a council and take a look to see what should be done, you see?

Now, there are some fundamental choices that have already been made. For example, an overwhelming majority of the sample of 3,050 people—political leaders among them—said they didn't want hasty elections. Now, I'm not saying they were unanimous about this, but it was an overwhelming majority. I mean, you will never be unanimous in a democracy. However, it is the majority that wins out.

So, they want a normal election. [passage omitted]

We didn't just arbitrarily decide to departmentalize certain elections. It was because in our travels throughout the country we saw the problems that could arise. [passage omitted] Nevertheless, on all these matters, we can always listen to people. We can always get together to see what should be done to satisfy everyone. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Bel-Air MOP Announces Change of Name

FL2510172289 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 25 Oct 89

[Excerpt] The (?Haitian Democratic Party), whose real name is Movement for the Organization of the Country, MOP.... [announcer changes thought] The leadership of the political bureau of the Haitian Democratic Party [Pati Demokrat Ayisysen]—we are talking about the Bel-Air MOP, formerly known as the Workers and Peasants Movement, MOP—announces to the pertinent authorities, the press, other political parties, and the general public that this MOP held its general assembly at the Club International on the Freres Road on 20 and 21 October. A new committee was elected. This committee will guide the destiny of the Movement for the Organization of the Country, MOP, or Haitian Democratic Party. [passage omitted]

Debt Committee Groups Called Leftist

FL2510144089 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 24 Oct 89

[Excerpts] A number of political and union organizations in Haiti with ties to the left—to what we call the communists—have come together into the Haitian Committee Against the Debt. Monday, they rejected the proposal made recently in Caracas, Venezuela, by Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez that there be a regional conference on Haiti. [passage omitted]

The committee, which feels that Haiti should not pay a foreign debt that the Haitian people did not incur, includes the Autonomous Organization of Haitian Workers, or CATH, one of Haiti's three main union federations; the National Federation of Haitian Students, or FENEH; the People's National Assembly, or APN, which is radical left; the National Association of People's Organizations, or ANOP; and the League of Former Haitian Political Prisoners, or LAPPH.

Manley Arrives To Discuss Economic Ties

FL2510130089 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 25 Oct 89

[Text] Jamaican Prime Minister Michael Manley is in Mexico on his way back from the Commonwealth Summit in Malaysia. There, he will meet with President Carlos Salinas de Gortari tomorrow to discuss increasing economic ties between the two countries.

Jamaica has begun talks with both Mexico and Venezuela to increase the oil it buys from them under the San Jose Agreement. Jamaican Energy Minister Hugh Small also says his country is considering aluminum joint ventures with Venezuela. Currently the two countries supply Jamaica with 22,000 barrels of oil a day and Mr Small would like to see that raised to 36,000 a day. Jamaica is also seeking Venezuelan technical assistance in upgrading its refineries.

Salinas Comments on Relations With U.S., Spain

PM2510092489 Barcelona LA VANGUARDIA in Spanish 4 Oct 89 p 8

[Interview with President Carlos Salinas de Gortari by Jaime Arias, Joaquim Ibarz in Mexico City; date not given]

[Excerpts] Mexico City—[Passage omitted] [Reporter] In what areas could Mexican-Spanish relations develop better?

[Salinas] I believe there are several fields—trade, definitely. We very much want to strengthen trade relations with Spain—first, because it is a natural market for our products and, second, because with the approach of 1992 Spain could become a real doorway for Mexico to the EC.

But there are also other fields offering great prospects for relations. That of Spanish investments in Mexico interests us greatly. In tourism we have already found specific projects in which, with the great experience that they have in this sphere, Spanish businessmen are investing in the construction of several hotels in Mexico, and also in forging links for their established channels for promoting tourism in order to bring it to Mexico. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] The king's visit will be very important.

[Salinas] Very opportune. We particularly want, in our discussions with him, to be able to emphasize specifically this new phase in relations between Mexico and Spain. At the same time we would like him to be able to know the country better by the end of the very busy schedule being planned, because the Mexicans too would like to know him better. I would like him to see both the interior and the coastlands, in short, to visit the country so that he can better appreciate what was found by those who came from Spain in search of new horizons. And for him to know the reason for the affection that exists between the two nations.

[Reporter] Will the Mexican-Spanish cooperation agreement be signed here on the occasion of the king's visit?

[Salinas] We are working on it. If possible, we would very much like this to happen and, I repeat, we are working hard to make it happen.

[Reporter] You have always maintained good relations with Prime Minister Gonzalez, have you not? Has Spain's experience of industrial conversion proved useful to you?

[Salinas] Yes. Prime Minister Gonzalez is a very open person, very willing to share his view of problems and challenges; he is very direct. Each country carries out its processes of change in accordance with its own circumstances, but we watch with great interest what is happening throughout the rest of the world, and there is no doubt that Spain's experience has proved very successful and innovative, taking bold steps that we have appreciated, as we have Prime Minister Gonzalez' skill in leading this process. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] What can you tell us about relations with the United States on the eve of your visit to Washington?

[Salinas] These relations are very important to Mexico because of our geographical proximity and because it is the country with the largest economy in the world. Ours is one of the longest borders between two nations and has the largest number of border crossings: There are 22 million crossings a year. Our economies are unbalanced, we have different political systems, and our cultural roots are different, but amid this diversity we must find both respect in our relations and actions that will benefit both countries.

This is the reason for my special interest in the state visit, because new relations with the United States—of great respect and great cordiality—have been established. President Bush has stressed his desire for cordial relations, which has been reflected in deeds, and I greatly appreciate these things: Secretary Brady's political stance and the American authorities' entire approach to ensuring the attainment of the accord that we needed played a very prominent role in the rescheduling of our debt.

Regarding drug trafficking, we have found joint channels for cooperation, because this is a phenomenon common to both countries—them as a major consumer country and us as a transit country, though one where the consequences of drug trafficking also occur. I am very worried about these problems. [passage omitted]

Government Continues 'Moralizing' Campaign

PA2410202289 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1908 GMT 24 Oct 89

[Text] Mexico City, 24 Oct (EFE)—Over the next 6 months, the Mexican Attorney General's Office will

arrest approximately 10,000 current and former government officials who are suspected of embezzlement or fraudulent actions against the state resulting in a cost of $360 million.

Hector Castaneda, deputy attorney general for penal procedures, said these actions are part of the measures to "moralize" and "modernize" the Mexican Government undertaken by Carlos Salinas de Gortari's government since it assumed power last December.

Through these operations, authorities hope to recover approximately $80 million, to be added to the same amount already returned by approximately 6,000 government officials who have been arrested over the past 11 months.

PAN Explains Alliance With PRI on Reforms

PA2510133389 Mexico City THE NEWS in English 20 Oct 89 p A-4

[Article by staff reporter Kim Lopez]

[Text] Members of the National Action Party (PAN) National Executive Committee explained why PAN deputies voted in alliance with the ruling Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI), in favor of the final electoral reform dictamen.

During the center-right party's weekly press conference, Secretary General Luis H. Alvarez, PAN parliamentary coordinator Deputy Abel Vicencio Tovar and Deputy Juan Miguel Alcantara Soria claimed their party legislators approved the final electoral synthesis "because it is just a first step toward a new electoral law and toward democracy."

In response to a question regarding the PAN's decision to vote in favor of a plan that assures a continued PRI majority in the Chamber, Alcantara Soria said that one of the four PRI members of the congressional Interior and Constitutional Points Commission, in charge of reviewing the final electoral synthesis told the Panista parliamentary faction that if their majority would not have been insured, "they would have to resort to fraudulent measures in order to achieve it."

Alcantara Soria would not say who made the comment, but the four on the commission are Augusto Gomez Villanueva, Jose Lamadrid Sauza, Fructuoso Lopez Cardenas or Jose Trinidad Lanz.

In so far as what they termed "the first step towards a new electoral law," PAN presented the following background.

Last November, the party legislators presented 14 constitutional reform proposals and a complete project of the new Federal Electoral Law (that will also be debated shortly, during the upcoming ordinary period). PAN claims that no other party has made a similar effort.

Members of the center-right party said they met with all of the nation's political forces to reach a consensus on the electoral issue. "We never confirmed that our ideas or proposals were the only reasonable ones, nor did we believe that all of these would be accepted or approved," Alvarez said.

PAN also claims that "as a result of our intervention, the proposals of other opposition parties, and especially some of ours, were included in the dictamen by the Interior and Constitutional Points Commission, comprised by a PRI majority."

The six included PAN proposals are: the creation of an autonomous organization in charge of the electoral process development and vigilance; the creation of an Electoral Tribune whose decisions can only by modified by two-thirds of the Electoral Colleges majority; that the sessions of all the electoral organizations will be public; that citizens will be free to choose the political party that best suits them (PAN will attempt to include this in Constitution's bill of rights); the establishment of the National Citizens Registry and Identify Card, and that if a party does not get 35 percent of the vote, it will not have an absolute majority in the Chamber of Deputies.

Costa Rica

Sandinists: No Bush-Ortega Meeting Planned

PA2610042389 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0058 GMT 26 Oct 89

[Text] San Jose, 25 Oct (ACAN-EFE)—Saul Arana, Nicaraguan ambassador to Costa Rica, said today that "no efforts have been made to arrange a meeting between Daniel Ortega and George Bush, presidents of Nicaragua and the United States, [no closing quotation marks as received] but his government "has always been willing" to discuss bilateral affairs with the Americans.

The Sandinist diplomat told ACAN-EFE in San Jose that Ortega is willing to converse with Bush about issues such as "respect for the self-determination of peoples, noninterference by one country in another's internal affairs, the contras' demobilization, and other issues of a political-military nature."

Along with 15 other presidents from the American continent, Bush and Ortega will arrive in Costa Rica this weekend to participate in the celebration of Costa Rica's 100th year of democracy.

If the dialogue takes place, the ambassador added, the agenda must include the "contras" (armed anti-Sandinist resistance supported by the United States), whose demobilization he described as "essential" to the achievement of peace in his country.

Arana stressed that the consensus in Central America favors demobilizing the "contras," as ratified at the last meeting of Central American presidents in Tela (Honduras), and added that "this issue should not be neglected" in a bilateral negotiation.

"It is not a secret," he said, "that the U.S. Government is totally involved with the contras, and that this must be discussed in order to achieve the normalization of bilateral relations at all levels."

The diplomat gave assurances that Nicaragua will not shrink from a dialogue with the Americans within the framework of the American summit of presidents that will be held this weekend in Costa Rica, nor will it shrink from negotiating specific issues of interest to the two states at a concurrent meeting, without an agenda and without conditions.

Today, Costa Rican presidential candidate Rafael Calderon Fournier said that in his opinion it would be advantageous for Bush, Ortega, and their host Oscar Arias to meet this weekend in San Jose. Calderon Fournier, candidate for the Social Christian Unity Party (PUSC), said at a news conference that the atmosphere that prevails in the Costa Rican capital is appropriate "for talks among all who have problems in America." Nevertheless, he warned that this is a decision that "Bush and Ortega must make."

The U.S. Government recently announced that it has dismissed the possibility of a Bush-Ortega bilateral meeting in view of the vast differences that exist between the two countries, but in San Jose there has been speculation regarding the possibility that the meeting may take place if the host president also participates.

Spokesman on Panamanian Remarks About Arias

PA2510224289 San Jose Radio Impacto in Spanish 0030 GMT 24 Oct 89

[Text] Costa Rican Information Minister Jorge Urbina referred to statements by the Panama Defense Forces [FDP] in Panama City on 22 October concerning President Oscar Arias Sanchez, a Nobel Peace Prize laureate. The FDP said Arias was a lackey of the United States and that the Nobel Peace Prize should have been awarded to Panama. The information minister commented on the guidelines used by President Arias to invite guests to the Costa Rican summit with regard to who had met and who had not met his conditions to be invited to the festivities to honor 100 years of Costa Rican democracy. Let us hear Information Minister Jorge Urbina's statements:

[Begin Urbina recording] The criteria used to invite guests to these festivities was that they had to be presidents or heads of governments that were freely elected and, thus, represented their people's will in an electoral process. The Costa Rican Government is aware that there are many different electoral processes on the American continent. There are diverse ways in which the people participate in electoral processes, also diversity in the way pluralism operates and how parties participate in the electoral processes. The Costa Rican Government is also aware that electoral processes require purity so that the people's will is effectively translated into the country's reality.

We did not, however, categorize these differences at this time. The only requirement we established was that the presidents had to be freely elected. Therefore, this does not include a person who has reached power by force of arms, who has perpetuated himself in power through the force of arms, or who has not been elected by the will of the people. [Persons in this category would not] be invited to the party given for Costa Rican democracy scheduled to be held in a few days. The complaints voiced by the FDP are not reasonable. They are not reasonable because we did not exclude the Panamanian president. The Panamanian president was excluded by the FDP itself. The FDP has called President Arias a puppet; I imagine that they have great experience in the matter of puppets, because Panama has had seven presidents over the years and this shows the control exerted

through [words indistinct] FDP hands in the political life of that country. [end recording]

Joint Agreement Signed To Patrol Atlantic Coast

PA2610011189 San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 17 Oct 89 p 6-A

[By Luis Manuel Mora]

[Text] Nicaragua and Costa Rica have signed an agreement in which the two countries agreed to help each other patrol the Atlantic coast to help prevent drug trafficking.

Hernan Garron Salazar, the Costa Rican public security minister, headed a high-level delegation that participated in the Sandinist Army's 10th anniversary festivities.

The agreement is the result of 2 days of talks between Garron Salazar and Nicaraguan Interior Minister Tomas Borge.

In addition to the patrol agreement Garron and Borge ratified the resolution to grant courtesy visas to transport drivers.

It was agreed that in November the technical assistance commission will meet to prepare a draft joint agreement, for which international support will be sought.

The Costa Rican delegation said that new procedures for granting consular visas are being established, with the possibility that visas might be granted to all Nicaraguans without exception.

The parties ratified the arrangement of continuing to give passes to residents of Los Chiles and Upala so they can cross into the border zone for 72 hours.

It was also agreed that in February there will be a high-level meeting to follow up on the progress of the agreements.

Observers Appointed for Nicaraguan Elections

PA2510161189 San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 19 Oct 89 p 8-A

[Report by Marvin Barquero S.: "Cabinet Meeting"]

[Text] The government has appointed a commission formed by former Costa Rican President Mario Echandi, former Government Minister Joaquin Vargas Gene, and former Supreme Electoral Tribunal President Ernesto Guzman to observe the electoral process in Nicaragua.

After noting the experience and the work done by the members of the commission, President Oscar Arias Sanchez said they will travel to Nicaragua as many times as necessary to inform the Costa Rican Government about the development of the Nicaraguan process.

Rodrigo Arias, deputy minister of the Presidency, reported that the 18 October Cabinet session was dedicated to analyzing the country's financial situation. The Cabinet again stressed that it is important that the country receive the disbursements resulting from the agreements with the World Bank as soon as possible.

Deputy Minister Arias also said the government will request a meeting with the Supreme Court of Justice to analyze the impact that court decisions in favor of groups of workers will have on the country's finances.

In addition, President Oscar Arias swore in new Attorney General Adrian Vargas Benavides on 18 October.

Concerning former President Echandi's request to represent the country as an observer in the Nicaraguan elections, President Arias pointed out that an initiative exists by former U.S. President Jimmy Carter. He said Echandi will join a group of former heads of state of Latin America that was formed by the Carter Center to observe the elections.

Echandi recommended that the government also appoint Vargas and Guzman as observers.

According to former President Echandi, his commitment is to defend Costa Rican democracy from possible external enemies, especially in Central America's current situation.

El Salvador

'Strong Protest' Issued to Nicaragua Over Weapons

PA2510210389 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 1900 GMT 25 Oct 89

[Excerpt] Foreign Minister Jose Manuel Pacas Castro said today that Nicaragua continues to send weapons to the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN], clearly violating the regional agreements regarding the suspension of aid to guerrilla groups.

Pacas Castro made this complaint when he revealed he had asked the United Nations to conduct an investigation regarding the weapons that were confiscated in Honduras a few days ago, and that were meant for the FMLN.

The Foreign Ministry released a complete report on the weapons coming from Nicaragua that were confiscated in Honduran territory last week. Likewise, he said he sent a forceful protest to the Nicaraguan Government for giving aid to the Salvadoran rebel forces, thereby violating the Esquipulas II agreements.

The first official count of the weapons reveal that 80 weapons, including rifles, pistols, and machine guns, were confiscated, as well as 293 magazines of various calibers, almost 1,200 grenades, and over 19,000 pieces of ammunition.

[Begin Pacas recording] We have filed a strong protest to the Nicaraguan Government because it continues to violate the agreements reached within the framework of the Central American peace process, known as the Esquipulas II agreements. A clear commitment was made not to allow the use of one's territory to attack another. A clear commitment was also made not to support guerrilla forces that are trying to create disorder in other countries. On this occasion, there is no doubt that the weapons were brought from Nicaragua. [end recording]

Foreign Minister Jose Manuel Pacas said he has filed a complaint before the UN secretary general so that he investigates the case of the seized weapons. There should not just be mere accusations between the Nicaraguan and Salvadoran Governments, he said.[passage omitted]

Cristiani Accuses FMLN of Minister's Murder

PA2610011389 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 25 Oct 89

[Text] The topic of the murder of former Presidential Minister Jose Antonio Rodriguez Porth was brought up again today when President Alfredo Cristiani accused the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] of murdering him. The president made these comments this morning when he reported that former rebel commander Miguel Castellanos had been murdered with the same weapon that killed Dr Rodriguez Porth. This, he said, was evidence that the FMLN was responsible for these deaths, although the group has rejected this fact publicly. Let us hear the president:

[Begin Cristiani recording] We should not believe that the FMLN is incapable of lying. The media always mentions that the FMLN concedes when it has done something, as well as when it has not, and that we have to believe them 100 percent. Well, I will give you a fact. You know that the FMLN accepted responsiblity for the murder of Miguel Castellanos. This is no secret, as they said it publicly. However, the FMLN has never conceded that they murdered Dr Rodriguez Porth. We have the ballistic tests for both cases, and the same weapon was used in both murders. Thus, the FMLN did murder Rodriguez Porth despite the fact that they deny it. [end recording]

The president commented on the recent attacks against leftist leaders, and also revealed that during the talks in Costa Rica, the FMLN commanders were upset when the government delegation mentioned that the Democratic Convergence and UDN [National Democratic Union] were participating in the country's social and political life.

[Begin Cristinai recording] There is a curious detail that always got the FMLN upset in Costa Rica. They became upset when we mentioned that FDR [Revolutionary Democratic Front] leaders—that is, their allies Dr Ruben Zamorra and Dr Guillermo Ungo—were in El Salvador and participated in the electoral process with total access to the media. You are all witness to this. The FDR did conduct a political campaign, but apparently the FMLN does not want to accept this or allow it to happen. So perhaps it was the FMLN themselves who carried out these attacks to be able to say that leaders risk danger in El Salvador. However, it could also be extremists with another ideology. [end recording]

President Cristiani also expressed hope that at the next dialogue session scheduled to be held in Venezuela, the FMLN will adopt a serious position, so that progress can be made toward solving the problem posed by the war.

[Begin Cristiani recording] It seems to me that it was the FMLN that did not want to broach the main issue agreed upon in Mexico. The FMLN created a series of stumbling blocks to avoid discussing the main issue.

In my opinion it is illogical to believe that they were being asked to surrender. No one was asking them to even surrender their weapons this time, but to simply end the hostilities, to stop sabotaging our infrastructure—in short—to stop murdering people. [end recording]

Concerning the weapons recently confiscated in Honduran territory, the president said that very little has been learned about the Honduran who was arrested. He said, however, that it is another case of Nicaragua and Cuba meddling in El Salvador's internal affairs.

Colonel Ponce Says FMLN Orders Assassinations

PA2610043889 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 21 Oct 89 pp 4, 15

[Text] "The war against the political, economic, and military leaders should be total and include their properties, families, and homes. We should always prioritize executions, although harassment, psychological warfare, attacks, and so forth are part of this strategy and can be carried out by the terrorists who joined the FMLN-FDR [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front-Revolutionary Democratic Front] recently and are therefore less experienced. We are likely to make mistakes and have some trouble, but this is a necessary risk we must take."

From the viewpoint of the terrorist "commanders," this basic instruction, this general outline, leaves any rank and file member free to perpetrate assassinations and wreak destruction, Colonel Rene Emilio Ponce, chief of the Armed Forces Joint Staff, explained.

Ponce showed the reporters a document containing these instructions from the FMLN leadership. Following this directive, the so-called urban guerrillas reportedly perpetrated several attacks against civilian officials and military officers and their families in the past few days.

Ponce pointed out that although the FMLN-FDR leaders have denied any connection with the crimes, attacks, and similar actions attributed to terrorists, these actions do respond to a plan previously drafted by these leaders.

Ponce said that the document, seized by the Army on 30 June, says: "It is important for the urban forces to become autonomous and show great initiative. We must work under the principle that these forces should have their hands free. We must give arms to every member, decentralize logistics, prepare operations, and be ready for action whenever the opportunity arises."

Because several people were gunned down last week, some circles have pointed out that the FMLN-FDR leaders might have lost control of some groups such as the "Clara Elizabeth Ramirez Commando" or the "Modesto Ramirez Commando," which have claimed responsibility for some of the crimes later denied by the FMLN-FDR leaders at the Moravia, Costa Rica, meeting.

"Urban activity at this stage is one of the main, decisive factors of the military strategy to deepen the enemy crisis and unleash insurrection, because it allows us to work permanently in the cities. At this moment, the cities are the most important war theater, where a significant percentage of the victory will be determined," the document states.

In another part, the document orders FMLN sympathizers—be they strikers or those making demands on the government—to generate nonconformity and give the impression that the government is not capable of keeping order or controlling collective dissatisfaction, Ponce explained.

"We should support all movements by FMLN sympathizers and lend them credibility so they feel they have our support. This will also give them the opportunity to show that they are broadening their bases," the document reads.

"In order to raise the level of urban warfare, we need to support a national military-political apparatus with its own leadership structure, in the same way each organization that leads FMLN sympathizers does. This will allow us more autonomy, and also allow us to take advantage of legal movements to give technical and logistical support, and to be able to operate throughout the country moving commandos from one area to another. This way the forces that are already at every front will receive a more continuous leadership in accordance with their capabilities. We are likely to make mistakes and have some trouble, but this is a necessary risk we must take," the document reads.

The FMLN recommends that their "cells" take certain security measures and control possible infiltrators.

In the part where it orders more violence, the document says: "The war against the political, economic, and military leaders should be total and include their properties, families, homes. We should always prioritize executions, although harassment, psychological warfare, attacks, and so on are part of this strategy and can be carried out by the terrorists who joined the FMLN-FDR recently and are therefore less experienced."

This seems to prove that the recent murders, attacks, and crimes were committed by those "less experienced groups" that the FMLN-FDR mentions. The military leader stressed that they were not carried out by a direct order but instead by following a previously outlined plan.

FMLN Issues Communique on Government Proposals

PA2510211389 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1200 GMT 25 Oct 89

[Communique issued by the General Command of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) in El Salvador on 24 October—recorded]

[Text] The FMLN advises the following regarding the statements by Alfredo Cristiani, the Armed Forces, and Roberto d'Aubuisson after the San Jose meeting:

1. The role of the government commission has been completely discredited, after learning from the media the government's official position on our proposal and after the commission refused at the talks to give us an option on our proposals.

2. The statements express clear rejection of the San Jose agreement in which it was agreed before international witnesses that a concerted cease-fire would be subject to prior political agreements. The government's commission implicitly accepted as points of the agenda human rights, the clarification of the case of Msgr Romero, the issue of constitutional reform, the restructuring of the judicial system, and the purging of the Armed Forces, among others. The possibility of agreements on these points was made clear.

3. We interpret the tone of these statements as a virtual declaration of war and a total rejection of continuing serious talks at the negotiation table.

4. The FMLN has demonstrated its flexibility by maintaining its willingness to accept a single Army. We contend, however, that if justice is not done in the case of Msgr Romero and the death squads, if the assassins and corrupt members of the Armed Forces are not purged, there is no possibility of democracy, and without democracy there cannot be peace. Therefore, we want to make clear our irrevocable position that it is a priority task to discuss the purging of the Armed Forces at the dialogue. Unless this problem is resolved, there is no possibility of a concerted cease-fire.

Our proposal does not request guarantees for the FMLN, but for the democratization of the country and society. Therefore, we echo the demands for democracy and vindication of diverse social and political sectors. In view of the government's intransigence, we call on all patriotic sectors to resolutely struggle until we achieve democracy and peace in El Salvador.
FMLN General Command
24 October 1989, El Salvador

Government Immigration To Deport 19 Colombians

PA2510212689 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 25 Oct 89

[Text] Salvadoran immigration officials have reported that they will deport 19 Colombians arrested at the Comalapa Airport on alleged drug trafficking charges. Immigration Director Colonel Maximiliano Leiva said that the Colombian citizens had been arrested on the afternoon of 22 October after his office received information that the Colombians were linked to the Cali Cartel.

The arrested Colombians were interrogated by the Treasury Police, who recommended that they be deported to their country. Based on the police recommendation, the immigration directorate decided to send the men back to Colombia on a TAN-SAHSA flight at 0645 on 26 October.

Col Leiva added that the investigations indicated that the Colombian group was accompanied by two Guatemalans, who were supposedly to guide them in their attempt to [illegally] enter the United States. The police report concluded that they were unable to prove that the 19 Colombians were participating in drug trafficking, but added that the men had conceded that their intentions were to travel to the United States.

Honduras

Azcona Meets U.S. General; Discusses Aid

PA2510193789 Tegucigalpa EL HERALDO in Spanish 25 Oct 89 p 5

[Text] Even though it was a courtesy visit, Honduran President Jose Azcona Hoyo praised the meeting he held with Gen Maxwell Thurman, chief of the U.S. Southern Command based in Panama.

The top U.S. military officer met with the president on 23 October, a few hours before meeting with Gen Humberto Regalado Hernandez, chief of the Honduran Armed Forces. They discussed with Thurman U.S. military aid to Honduras and urged that aid not be reduced, because this would decrease the budget of the Armed Forces which the government would not be able to balance.

Moreover, the president said that the crisis, which is so often mentioned in the country, is really a lack of well-being that was not caused by this government or by the previous ones. It is instead an age-old problem because of "the lack of education, health, and other things in Honduras that have not increased during the Jose Azcona administration."

"There are people, however, who want to benefit politically from this situation. They do not know Honduras. They do not know about the condition of its roads, but they call the radio stations and write in the newspapers." They do not know there are new roads in excellent conditions. There are places where people used candles for lights, now they have electricity, Azcona said.

"The president is aware of what is going on in Honduras. I am not the most informed person, but I believe I am one of the most informed presidents in Honduras. There has always been a crisis in Honduras. What we are facing now is a shortage," he said.

As for the changes announced by National Party candidate Rafael Leonardo Callejas, which he did not make in his government, Azcona said: "What kind of changes? That we did not give more opportunities to private enterprise? I believe we have given good incentives to private enterprise."

The president said that businessmen want all types of controls to be dropped, but this would lead to greediness among people who want to make not 2 million but 8 million lempiras, and so the government should regulate this.

Azcona said he regrets the fact that his government did not have sufficient resources to build more schools, to provide communities with more electric power, and to pave the airport in Tela.

The president defended himself on 24 October from the criticisms made against him because of the sluggish way in which he reacted to the plane crash on 21 October. He asked how it was possible to criticize in times of national sorrow, just as he was participating in the funerals and burials of people who were close to him in one way or another.

Besides, one should not be meddling around in areas where work is being done because one could disturb the operation. One should express one's condolences and attend funerals instead, he said.

He also said he has received condolences from the U.S. Embassy charge d'affaires on behalf of President George Bush.

Azcona said it is necessary for a government commission and other groups to investigate the causes of the accident, because he is convinced that Tegucigalpa needs a new airport, that the Toncontin Airport is very dangerous for residents of the capital as well as for foreign travelers.

The president said that bad weather was one of the reasons why the plane did not land normally. He said bad weather and a dangerous airport could lead to a greater disaster, in which "the number of dead would be countless."

"I do not believe planes should be rented unless they are in good condition. I would not dare to say anything regarding this. It is a shame, however, that Tegucigalpa does not have a safer airport. The opinion of people who know nothing have prevailed over those of the Association of Honduran Engineers. The opinion of the National Congress prevailed, he said.

Finally, he said that his trip to the summit in San Jose, Costa Rica would begin on 26 October.

Nicaragua

U.S. Comes Under Criticism for Contras, UNO

Ortega Comments on Involvement

PA2510222789 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 24 Oct 89

[Text] Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega yesterday urged the U.S. Government to condemn the crimes committed by the contras, or to accept responsibility by remaining silent.

Ortega reiterated his warning that the U.S. Government's attitude will determine the success of the electoral process, noting that so far it has only hindered it.

Ortega demanded a U.S. condemnation of contra crimes. He said:

[Begin recording] We must demand from the U.S. Government that it define once and for all whether it favors the electoral process or war. The U.S. Government, President Bush, and the U.S. Congress must issue a clear statement condemning the criminal actions carried out by mercenary forces against the Nicaraguan people. Otherwise, it will be clear that the Yankee government, the U.S. President, and the U.S. Congress are carrying out a false and hypocritical policy, because at the same time it supposedly finances an electoral process, it continues to finance and encourage the activities of terrorists who murder the Nicaraguan people. [end recording]

President Ortega also urged political parties to condemn the contra actions and protested new crimes by groups acting on behalf of the National Opposition Union.

[Begin recording] In addition, as Nicaraguan president, it is my duty to demand of all political groups participating in the electoral process, as well as from the media, that they strongly condemn those crimes. Anyone who does not condemn such actions becomes an accomplice. Humble people, workers, and peasants who were going to register and participate in the elections have been murdered. The unilateral cease-fire maintained by the Nicaraguan Government is being violated.

Explosives and weapons have been confiscated from the contras during military operations, which clearly shows that mercenary forces have intensified their actions against the electoral process, and against efforts by the revolution and the Nicaraguan Government to carry out the elections in the most stable and peaceful climate possible. [end recording]

Pro-Regime Groups Denounce Aid

PA2610020889 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 0039 GMT 26 Oct 89

[Text] Managua, 25 Oct (DPA)—A contra commando group that still refuses to give up the armed struggle and accept the elections in Nicaragua killed two civilians in the region of Matiguas, northern Matagalpa Department, during a raid on that community, it was reported today in Managua.

The radio station La Voz de Nicaragua reported that Carlos Lopez and Victorino Diaz were the victims of this counterrevolutionary action, which is presumably part of the general plan to boycott the elections scheduled for February 1990.

Meanwhile, groups of youths who support the Sandinist government marched through the streets near the U.S. Embassy in Managua to protest against the economic aid that the George Bush administration decided to give the Nicaraguan opposition alliance, which selected Violeta Chamorro as its candidate.

The Sandinist youths also demanded the suspension of the contras' military actions which, according to them, follow orders issued by the U.S. Government within its plans against the Nicaraguan revolution.

PSC Leader Scores U.S. Actions

PA2510215689 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1930 GMT 19 Oct 89

[Report on interview with Filiberto Sarria, acting president of the Social Christian Party (PSC) by unidentified reporter, date and place not given—recorded]

[Text] Commenting on U.S. financial aid for the UNO [National Opposition Union] electoral campaign, Sarria asked: What will the Supreme Electoral Council [CSE] do about the 50 percent share of the financial aid that it should receive by law?

Concerning the economic aid that the Somoza family in exile delivered to Pedro Chamorro Barrios for his mother's electoral campaign, Sarria said: Nicaraguans will reject any attempt by UNO to implement a Somozist government without Somoza.

[Begin recording] [Sarria] We have said on many occasions that any financial or logistical aid in general that will contribute toward polarizing the electoral process in Nicaragua is not approved of by the PSC. We believe that aid for Civic Way and such organizations in the electoral process must be increased—not based on the polarization of forces—but so that all Nicaraguans can benefit from that aid.

[Reporter] According to your party, what should the Sandinist government do with regard to this situation? [Sarria] I am not talking for my party; this is my personal opinion. The law says that political parties can receive foreign aid, and that 50 percent of that aid must be delivered to the CSE for the Fund for Democracy. Concerning U.S. aid—which has an origin that the Sandinist government has clearly described and identified—we would like to ask the CSE if it will still receive 50 percent of the funds approved by the U.S. Congress after the origin of those funds has been clearly identified.

[Reporter] What is your party's opinion with regard to the aid that the Chamorro family received for Violeta Chamorro's electoral campaign from the Somoza family?
[Sarria] We cannot state our opinion in that regard. We believe this is a matter of conscience for those who received that aid. We have not received the aid, so we cannot give an opinion. As I said, it is a matter of conscience.

[Reporter] Since all Nicaraguans suffered the abuses, crimes, and outrages of the Somozists, would you say that this shows a lack of political ethics and morality on the part of the Barrios family?
[Sarria] We have said that our party is a center party. We do not want the continuity of the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN], neither do we want a return to the past or to Somozism without Somoza. That is why we are the object of so many insults and slanders from the FSLN government, as well as from those who want to call themselves the only opposition in Nicaragua, and receive funds from the relatives of those who opppressed the Nicaraguan people for 40 years. [end recording]

FSLN Files Complaints Against UNO, Contras

PA2510233389 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 20 Oct 89

[Text] The Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] filed a series of complaints concerning acts of sabotage carried out by the contras and actions carried out by UNO [National Opposition Union] activists against the election campaign.

Commander Bayardo Arce, chief of the FSLN campaign, asked UNO to stop its armed activists.

[Begin Arce recording] I would first like to hand out a copy of all the complaints we have filed with the Supreme Electoral Council [CSE]. [end recording]

The FSLN presented two types of complaints. The first one was in reference to the manipulation of political parties that are trying to make the FSLN appear to be an obstacle to the election process. The second complaint went against actions by the contras in Regions 1, 5, 6, and the Northern Atlantic. These attacks are carried out on behalf of UNO and are hindering the registration process.

[Begin Arce recording] The principal issue, of which we have informed the CSE, is the armed activity carried out against the election process being conducted on behalf of UNO. We therefore believe that the CSE should ask the UNO alliance to come out publicly to deny any links to the counterrevolutionaries by condemning their activities. If they have links to these groups, UNO should ask them to suspend their hostile activities. [end recording]

Arce also asked the president of the CSE to extend the period for voter registration one more day because work has been hampered by counterrevolutionary activities.

Argentine President To Visit, Meet With Ortega

PA2610004289 Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 2300 GMT 25 Oct 89

[Text] It has been confirmed that Carlos Saul Menem will arrive in the country on Monday. Officials of the Argentine Embassy in Nicaragua confirmed this afternoon that Argentine President Carlos Saul Menem will arrive in the country on the morning of 30 October.

President Menem will participate in the meeting of Latin American presidents in Costa Rica, after which he will come to Managua to meet with Commander Daniel Ortega.

(?Menem will also meet) with the Nicaraguan opposition, Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo, and other personages.

Mexican Paper Interviews Interior Minister

PA2510233289 Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 22 Oct 89 pp 1-A, 2-A

[Report on interview with Interior Minister Tomas Borge by Roberto Vizcaino on 21 October—place on given]

[Text] Central America is today living "a new chapter in its history," in which we might finally reach a lasting peace in the region, once the rebels in El Salvador, Guatemala, and Nicaragua lay down their weapons as part of the Tela agreements, Tomas Borge said on 21 October.

Interviewed after the inaugural ceremony of the consultation meeting of the Permanent Conference of Latin American Political Parties, the legendary Sandinist commander—who almost died from torture he suffered under dictator Anastacio Somoza—warned that this new stage in Central America demands that the United States cease to meddle in the internal affairs of nations in the region.

Nevertheless, Borge said, the formal cessation of "contra" activities in Nicaragua and the dialogue begun by the rebels in El Salvador with President Cristiani are an obvious sign that the warmongering activity is about to end in the isthmus. We now need to see progress in the negotiations between the Guatemalan guerrillas and the government, which apparently will soon take place.

Today we see that the Tela agreements are being partially implemented, which is encouraging, because it will help lessen regional tension. It will also help in efforts to seek lasting peace.

In the case of Nicaragua, Borge added, the contras decision to lay down their weapons and join political life means a mortal blow to war in our country. Also, the change in the U.S. Government has changed the warlike conditions that exist on the Central American isthmus because, while Ronald Reagan openly approved armed intervention, George Bush has modified the strategy and now allots funds for open political meddling.

In an unprecedented manner, Borge stated, Bush has openly said that the United States has its candidate in

the Nicaraguan presidential elections and that Mrs Violeta Chamorro is its ally. To this we must add the huge economic support that he has given to promote her possible triumph against the Sandinists.

The entire picture reflects political action by local and international interests, which, to say the least, could be termed "unprecedented," Interior Minister Borge said.

"What if we said Jesse Jackson is our candidate for the U.S. presidential election? Even if he was...political common sense tells us that we should keep it to ourselves," Borge warns.

That Bush says he has his candidate for the Nicaraguan presidential elections, Borge adds, clearly indicates that the U.S. Government also has candidates throughout the entire continent. "Who would be the U.S. Government candidates in Mexico or Argentina?" Borge asked.

In any case, he explained, the fact that Mrs Violeta Chamorro is the U.S. political option for Nicaragua clearly shows that the "Yankees" want to promote reactionary parties in Latin America. "It is a guarantee and an incentive for the right-wing," he said.

However, Tomas Borge, always wearing a military uniform—which contrasted with the civilian nature of the meeting of Latin American political parties held yesterday at the PRI [Institutional Revolutionary Party] headquarters—warned that despite all the aforementioned, Nicaraguans will vote against Mrs Chamorro because, obviously, she is an U.S. ally.

"There is no doubt that Nicaraguans support President Daniel Ortega," he maintained.

Borge said that although the observers represent unacceptable meddling in any internal election process in any country, the Sandinist leaders are glad the upcoming elections will be the most "observed" in the history of Nicaragua. This will foil any U.S. plans and actions.

Borge is convinced that there will be no manipulation or fraud in the elections, and that the result will be a clear triumph by Daniel Ortega.

Borge said that the conditions existing in Central America at this time are very optimistic. An indication of this is that the presidents no longer "resolutely" obey U.S. orders. The presidents are making more autonomous decisions, and in objective terms, this gradually weakens U.S. intervention.

Ortega Urged To Honor Human Rights Commitments

PA2510233789 Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 2300 GMT 18 Oct 89

[Text] The directors of the Permanent Human Rights Commission [CPDH] held an urgent meeting this afternoon to issue a letter to Commander Daniel Ortega, asking him to abide by the most recent report on Nicaragua issued by the Inter-American Human Rights Commission [CIDH]. The report, which political observers consider to be devastating, maintains that there are no political conditions in Nicaragua for holding free elections. The report adds that the promises of freedom of expression and general amnesty continue to be just promises. The CPDH letter to Ortega reads:

Commander Daniel Ortega Saavedra, president of Nicaragua,

Managua

Commander Ortega Saavedra:

The Nicaraguan CPDH is addressing you to call your attention to the significant report on the situation of human rights in Nicaragua, approved during the 66th period of sessions held by the OAS Inter-American Human Rights Commission between 18 and 30 September. Taking as a base the American Convention on Human Rights—also known as the San Jose Pact, which has been signed and ratified by your government—among other things, the CIDH report points out that it is absolutely necessary to release all political prisoners to give credibility to the electoral process in Nicaragua. This is also necessary so that the upcoming elections for which the Nicaraguan people are preparing can be considered free elections. In other words, all people prosecuted by the so-called anti-Somozist People's Tribunals and under the law to protect order and public security. It is also necessary to release prisoners prosecuted by the special justice tribunals. That is, the [words indistinct] National Guard members who were left in prison in March of this year, which is an open violation to the American Convention on Human Rights.

The CIDH reaffirms that all these people stood trials in which they totally lacked procedural guarantees. There is no justification to continue conditioning the freedom of these people. Moreover, other governments, like the Salvadoran Government, have fulfilled the commitments made in the Esquipulas agreements and have released all political prisoners.

The CIDH points out that the use of state and monetary resources in favor of one of the parties involved in the electoral process reduces the legitimacy of the process, as happened precisely during the 1984 elections when the Sandinist National Liberation Front used state resources to its own advantage. This implies not only using state resources in favor of an specific sector, but also using such resources against the opposition. This includes conscription, which affects citizens of voting age, and which should be suspended during this period—including active military service and reserve military service.

The CIDH condemns the pressure and harassment against former members of the National Guard who received a pardon in March 1989. Such harassment violates the acquired commitments because the pardon given to the former National Guard members is [words indistinct] and reinstates all the civic and political rights of those who received pardon.

PSC Official Accuses LA PRENSA of Bias

PA2610012189 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0700 GMT 20 Oct 89

[Text] The Social Christian Party [PSC] today charged that LA PRENSA continues to boycott news about the parties that did not join the U.S.-financed coalition.

[Begin recording of Ramon Garcia Vilchez, PSC propaganda chief in Region 3] We want the people to know that, unfortunately, EL NUEVO DIARIO and other newspapers and news media that support the Sandinist National Liberation Front seem to be more open to the PSC and other parties. [end recording]

Garcia said LA PRENSA is a biased media that defends U.S. interests and a sector of the opposition. Independent parties that do not belong to this coalition are not given the opportunity to publish paid advertisements. This newspaper claims to defend democracy and freedom of expression—U.S. style.

[Begin Garcia recording] A newspaper, claiming to be for all Nicaraguans, should be open to all Nicaraguans. However, let them continue with their policy, it is their newspaper and they can do as they like with it. The PSC knows and is aware it is opposing many adversities, one of them being the boycott by LA PRENSA. However, this does not scare us. [end recording]

Garcia notes that the approval of $9 million by the U.S. Congress gives an advantage to the LA PRENSA candidate to finance her campaign. The PSC is at a disadvantage because of U.S. financing and the news boycott.

Panama

Noriega: Time for 'Others' To Bear Sacrifices

PA2610050189 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 0402 GMT 26 Oct 89

[Text] Panama City, 25 Oct (DPA)—General Manuel Antonio Noriega told the main labor groups in Panama that "we have advanced fighting tooth and nail" and that it is time to make "others" pay, because everyone should share in the sacrifices.

Noriega made these statements in a meeting with labor leaders to evaluate Panama's current situation and the recent war laws decreed by Provisional President Francisco Rodriguez.

Noriega went to the town of Tanara, 29 km from the capital city, accompanied by his staff and cabinet ministers. The labor unions were represented by members of organized labor unions that have more than 200,000 members. The labor leaders presented several petitions that run from laws to lower the cost of living and lowering rents to the creation of an Institute of Food and Drugs.

Meanwhile, Noriega said that the labor demands should be presented through a "package of bills" to be discussed by the Cabinet.

Noriega stressed that "the path to progress is through laws. The popular movements must not be left empty-handed; we must pass the laws."

Noriega said that the United States has violated human rights in Panama, acting against our children and even against our beliefs.

Regarding the foiled 3 October coup, when rebel offices tried to overthrow him, Noriega said that the United States wants to break the backbone of the country's defense, which is the Defense Forces, and dismantle the Panamanian labor movement.

Referring to the opposition'ss interpretation of the war laws, he said that the opposition "is afraid of the word 'war'. They believe that they are in Vietnam. Our war, however, is against injustice."

Noriega said that we should be thankful for the Panamanian people's control, as opposed to the problems faced by Carlos Andres Perez and Alan Garcia, where the people rebel and they cannot be controlled.

Captain Licona Describes Situation of Soldiers

PA2610043689 San Jose Radio Impacto in Spanish 0308 GMT 26 Oct 89

[Report by unidentified reporter on interview between Panama Defense Forces (FDP) Capt Javier Licona and correspondent Omaira Correa, date and place not given—passages within quotation marks are recorded]

[Text] According to Capt Javier Licona, an FDP officer who was involved in the aborted coup against the Panamanian dictator on 3 October, Panamanian soldiers get paid 20 days behind schedule or are paid only once a month. The troops face the same problems as public employees. He was asked: Do the troops earn fair wages? [Licona] "Members of the FDP get paid at the same time as public employees. In September, the soldiers were paid only once a month. Before, we used to get paid on the 10th and 25th of every month. The payment corresponding to the 10th would come on the 23d or the 24th. We would then have to wait until the next month to get the wages due on the 25th. Sometimes we would receive that payment on the 9th or 10th of the following month. If I am not mistaken, we were only paid once in September. We are suffering the same as the people. We used to get paid first and the civilian employees later, but now we are getting paid at the same time as the public employees."

During the several hours dictator Noriega was held by his captors, the Urraca Battalion troops shouted that the general should be sent away, or taken on a truck somewhere else. Capt Licona continues his narrative.

[Licona] "The troops at the central garrison asked that Noriega be put on a truck and taken away. They wanted me to tell Maj Moises Giroldi to proceed because the general was convincing Giroldi."

The officers holding Noriega wanted the dictator to leave with honors, military-style. We asked Javier Licona about the drug trafficking charges against the dictator.

[Licona] "We felt that after he left the FDP, things would change completely. If he had to answer to a court of justice, let him. Since he no longer belonged to the FDP, he had to face the charges. We wanted him to leave with honors because he was the head of a military institution. If he is accused of something, he should answer in court the charges against him."

According to Capt Licona, not all the troops know about the torture. He is evasive about these incidents. However, he knows that officer Camargo [not further identified] opened the head of a friend of his. Let us listen:

[Licona] "To know about the torture, you have to work where these things happen, because not everyone is told about it. Only a certain group knows about it. We, the officers who had nothing to do with it, do not agree with the torture. No one would like to have a relative tortured or killed. [words indistinct] torture or kill him. We do not agree with that. If that happened—I do not have proof that it went on because I have not seen...

[Omaira Correa, interrupting] "I can present a member of your group who was tortured. Camargo opened the head of one of your groups of officers."

[Licona] "He told me that when we got here. If that is what he says, I believe him. Panamanian troops must listen to this and think that this situation cannot continue in Panama because there are many honest officers who will be tried the same as those who are involved in the torture and the murders."

Leader's Summit Topics Include Country Situation

Opposition Departs for Meeting

PA2410233889 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2228 GMT 24 Oct 89

[Text] Panama City, 24 Oct (ACAN-EFE)—Shortly before his departure today to Costa Rica, Ricardo Arias, one of Panama's top opposition leaders, announced that U.S. President George Bush will meet with Panamanian opposition leaders at a breakfast on 28 October in San Jose.

Arias left today for Costa Rica accompanied by Guillermo Endara, the opposition's presidential candidate, to participate as "special guests" at the summit of American heads of state, which will be held in San Jose beginning on Friday.

In brief statements to the press, Arias said that the other opposition leader, Guillermo Ford, "will refrain from traveling as a precautionary measure."

The meeting with Bush has been arranged by Costa Rica's leading political parties, the ruling National Liberation Party, and the opposition Social Christian Unity Party.

The Panamanian Christian Democratic leader said that he and Endara will inform Bush and approximately 20 American heads of state of the political crisis Panama is undergoing.

On the eve of the trip to Costa Rica, Panama's opposition stated in a communique that Endara and Arias will report "our country's tragic situation and the Panamanian people's desire to live in peace and democracy."

The Costa Rican Government has announced that, in addition to Panama, Chile, Cuba, and Haiti have also not been invited to the summit on 27 and 28 October, because these countries' leaders have not been freely elected.

'Bribes' Rejected Over Treaties

PA2510222989 Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 20 Oct 89 pp 4-A, 52

[Report on statements by Nils Castro, executive secretary of the Permanent Conference of Latin American Political Parties and a leader of the Democratic Revolutionary Party, during news conference on 20 October at the headquarters of the Institutional Revolutionary Party—by Antonio Garza]

[Text] Nils Castro, executive secretary of the Permanent Conference of Latin American Political Parties [COPPPAL], said that General Manuel Antonio Noriega has rejected offers and millions in bribes to repeal the Torrijos-Carter treaties and allow the United States to not return the Panama Canal in 1999, as it is obliged to do, and not withdraw its armed troops, which have been stationed in that country for over a century.

Furthermore, the politician and leader of the Democratic Revolutionary Party [PRD]—which was founded by Omar Torrijos—added that only 11 months ago the DEA handed Noriega some documents to congratulate him for fighting drug trafficking in Panama. He was acknowledged as a man committed to the antidrug struggle. However, in view of his refusal to allow the United States to stay in the canal, the State Department branded him as a drug trafficker.

Noriega is not a drug trafficker, Castro pointed out. He is a man committed to two main causes: the recovery of Panamanian territory currently in U.S. hands and the return of the Panama Canal, and the withdrawal of U.S. troops from Panama.

During a news conference at the headquarters of the Institutional Revolutionary Party [PRI] in the company of Romero Flores Caballero, PRI international affairs secretary, Castro said that "Mexico has not changed its international policy. Although this has entailed political and social costs abroad, Mexico has defended Panama's position. Each country should be allowed to solve its conflicts without foreign meddling."

Nils Castro said that if we allow the United States to determine who should rule Panama, no Latin American leader or government would be safe.

Castro, executive secretary of COPPPAL, which is made up of more than 50 political parties of 22 Latin American countries, said that in "plenary meetings" this organization has for the past 2 years issued statements maintaining that Panama has the right to handle its domestic affairs without foreign meddling, and with others' respect for the Torrijos-Carter treaties.

Another reason why Gen Noriega lost the "favor" of the U.S. State Department was his refusal to allow regular and special Panamanian troops to participate in an invasion of Nicaragua, Nils Castro said.

The Panamanian politician, in his capacity as PRD representative, stated that Noriega has received the support of politicians, parliamentarians, and some Latin American governments for demanding the withdrawal of U.S. troops from our territory and the return of the canal. He added that the foundations for the holding of elections in Panama will be revealed in the near future.

Castro said that Noriega will retire not by a decision of the United States, but in keeping with the rules and laws of the Panamanian Armed Forces.

Panama has a little more than 2 million inhabitants and has had to put up with the presence of U.S. troops since even before construction of the canal began.

The news conference was called to announce that the COPPPAL preparatory meeting, which will be attended by delegates of 22 countries prior to this political group's 25th conference, will be held on 21 October. COPPPAL aims to unite Latin America and to champion its right to solve its own problem without foreign intervention.

Opposition Denies Treaty Pact

PA2510172589 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1538 GMT 25 Oct 89

[Text] San Jose, 25 Oct (ACAN - EFE)—Today the Panamanian opposition rejected General Manuel Antonio Noriega's argument that his regime has to stay in power because the opposition has agreed to negotiate a new canal treaty to replace the one signed in 1977, saying the statements "were slanderous."

The opposition leaders Guillermo Endara, Ricardo Arias, and Guillermo Ford stated in a paid advertisement that appeared in Costa Rican newspapers: "We reaffirm our historic commitment to ensure that the Panama Canal and all matters related to it pass into Panamanian hands on the stipulated date (31 December 1999) in accordance with the Torrijos - Carter treaties."

"The military dictatorship has invented and broadcast the lie" that the opposition has made an alleged pact with the United States to change the treaties "so as to justify their supression of our liberties and the oppression of the Panamanian people," added the Panamanian opposition leaders.

Endara and Arias arrived in San Jose on 24 October. They were invited by the main Costa Rican political parties to attend the presidential summit that is to be held in San Jose this weekend.

In the communique that was published by San Jose newspapers, the Panamanian opposition leaders thanked the Costa Rican Government for not inviting Panamanian President Francisco Rodriguez to the summit, as they stated he was "the 7th civilian facade of the military dictatorship in the past 7 years."

Regarding the thwarted 3 October military coup against Noriega, they said that "the genesis and causes of its failure are unrelated to us because we had nothing to do with the incident."

Meanwhile, Arias said that after the coup, what prevails in Panama is "the law of the jungle: either you kill me, or I kill you." He added that there are many "doubts" regarding what really occurred on 3 October and the role played by the U.S. Government.

He stressed that there is a "serious indication" that the number of dead as a result of the rebellion is not 10 as the government reported, but "could reach 50." He added that apparently some of them "were executed after being tortured."

According to Arias, the coupists "made a serious mistake" by not announcing an immediate democratization process and by not asking the people to support them."

"That was the reason why—in addition to fear—people remained spectators in the fight between two military groups," Arias said.

As to what the Panamanian opposition expects from the weekend's presidential summit, Endara said that they arrived not only to meet with U.S. President George Bush, "but to ask all heads of state to help Panama become a democratic nation again."

Arias added that the Panamanian opposition would like "the countries on the continent to adopt collective actions to pressure the Noriega regime," to isolate the government diplomatically and politically, and to recognize that the Civic Democratic Opposition Alliance (ADOC) won the annuled 7 May elections.

According to Arias "there is a clear majority of countries in favor of a declaration against Noriega," but that the Organization of American States (OAS), which mediated in the Panamanian crisis, "has fallen into a mechanism that paralyzes its action: consensus."

Endara on Dictatorship

PA2610005989 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2238 GMT 25 Oct 89

[Text] San Jose, 25 Oct (ACAN-EFE)—Panamanian opposition leader Guillermo Endara today asserted in Costa Rica that Panama's "strong man" General Manuel Antonio Noriega "has a pathological love for power" and that he will give it up only "when he goes out in a wooden pajama (coffin)."

Endara made statements to a television station in San Jose, where he arrived, invited by Costa Rican political parties for the American presidents' summit this weekend. He said that he does not advocate violence, but given the prevailing situation in Panama "I believe that this (Noriega's death) is what will happen."

The Panamanian opposition presidential candidate in the 7 May elections, which were later annulled, said: "I do not think Noriega will voluntarily give up power."

Endara believes that "the Panamanian military dictatorship has entered its final phase," and the military in his country "no longer has strength; it is weak, divided, and mortally wounded."

"I think Noriega is in bad shape; his days are numbered," the politician added. However, he did not specify how long the regime—installed in Panama with the 1968 military coup—will prevail.

Asked about "the Cuba - Nicaragua - Panama axis," Endara said he does not give much importance to it "because Noriega is a bad associate. He has betrayed every associate he has had."

Asked about the foiled 3 October coup d'etat against Noriega, the opposition leader said that he and his fellow party members had nothing to do with it because it was "strictly a military uprising."

Endara believes that the coup failed because the rebel officers "did not talk about democracy or liberty" because, he added, "they wanted Noriegaism without Noriega."

"Who will go out and fight in the streets for another Noriega?" he responded when asked about the opposition's passive attitude on the day of the coup.

The Panamanian politician insisted on his victory in the 7 May elections and said he will only accept new elections if there is a pledge for Noriega to abandon power, which be believes is improbable.

[Hamburg DPA in Spanish at 2330 carries a similar report and quotes Endara as saying that there will be another coup d'etat against the Panama Defense Forces commander before year's end, and that "Panama will spend Christmas without Noriega."]

Columnists Deride Meeting

PA2510215789

[Editorial Report] Panama City LA REPUBLICA in Spanish on 24 October on page 4 carries a 300-word column by Justo Arroyo entitled: "Witches' Meeting in San Jose," on the upcoming meeting of American heads of state, "hosted by Costa Rican President Oscar Arias, which means, hosted by George Bush." Arroyo notes that the meeting gives President Arias, as well as Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez and U.S. President George Bush, the "opportunity to gloat like whores because they excluded Panama." Then the author says the "democratically elected" heads of states that were invited include "murderers like Alfredo Cristiani of El Salvador and Vinicio Cerezo of Guatemala; schizophrenics like Alan Garcia of Peru, and, of course, purportedly 'elected' presidents like Carlos Salinas de Gortari of Mexico." Arroyo takes Arias to task for ignoring that in Panama "no one is getting killed in the streets and there are no bomb attacks or death squads," and that "Bush's corruption and his 'democracy' frustrated the Panamanian elections process." He concludes that the country has "nothing to lose by not attending that witches' meeting of 'democratically elected'" leaders.

The same paper on page 5 carries the "Vox Populi" column by Luis Restrepo entitled: "Bush's Summit." In the 350-word column, Restrepo writes that the United States is really organizing and paying for the meeting. The author accuses President Arias of excluding Panama to comply with U.S. instructions in exchange for the "promise that international lending agencies will give new loans to the host country, on orders from Bush." He then adds that Arias has "dutifully acted the part of 'circus monkey'" and has begun "to utter lies" about Panama and "vilely accuse us of the crimes fabricated in emperor Bush's sickly mind." Restrepo indicates "most Latin American mass groups" feel the participants to the "burlesque show in San Jose" do not represent "the people of their respective countries."

'Liberation Trails' on Media, Elections

PA2510223289

[Editorial Report] Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish at 1200 GMT on 25 October broadcasts live the 75-minute "Liberation Trails" commentary program with Rigoberto Paredes, former legislator of the Democratic Revolutionary Party [PRD], journalist Baltazar Renan Aizpurua, and Euclides Fuentes Arroyo, secretary general of the Journalists Union of Panama.

After Aizpurua introduces the topics to be discussed, Euclides Fuentes reads a message sent by Aizpurua to the participants of the meeting of social communicators. The message denounces the "vile aggression by the United States against the Republic of Panama, which seeks to bring the Panamanian Government and people to their knees, to make them renounce their right to become truly free, independent, and sovereign." The

message notes the criminal attitude of the two former U.S. administrations, which used the media as their favorite instrument "to deceive the world about what is happening in Panama, to distort facts, to slander the leadership of the national liberation struggle, and to obtain international support for the U.S. military aggression plans against Panama." The message is signed by Baltazar Renan Aizpurua, candidate for secretary general of the Journalists Union of Panama.

Paredes says that presently Panama is the country experiencing the most aggression, "because even the Costa Rica summit has been invented by President Bush to create conditions of aggression against Panama." Paredes says that the media congress being held in Panama must respond to "the enemies of liberty, who in the name of democracy, seek to deceive the people." He then refers to the 23 October column by Professor Justo Arroyo on the upcoming San Jose meeting, in which he broaches the topic of freely elected governments.

On this Aizpurua notes that $9 million is being used to corrupt the voters in Nicaragua, because Nicaraguan electoral laws permit political parties to receive aid from abroad on the condition that half of the amount is given to the Supreme Electoral Council. He goes on to say that what the United States has done is to create another smokescreen. He cites a Managua report noting that since the 1984 elections, parties, trade organizations, and other opposition groups in Nicaragua have received $20,250,427. Aizpurua notes that "most of the U.S. aid was dedicated to supporting the contras, for the assassination of Nicaraguans." He says that a U.S. nongovernment agency, Hemispheric Initiative, has confirmed that $5,230,427 of this amount was given by the National Endowment for Democracy, created in 1983 under the Reagan administration, and the remaining $15 million was channeled through the CIA. Aizpurua adds that the "delivery of $5,950,000 of the $9 million recently approved by the Congress is already underway."

Aizpurua notes that lawyers of a social communications firm held a news conference in Managua on financing from abroad for the rightist National Opposition Union (UNO) of Nicaragua. The organization was invited by the Nicaraguan Government to observe the electoral process. He cites the organization as saying that "UNO received another $3,100,000 from the West German Konrad Adenauer Foundation, $200,000 from the Friedrich Naumann foundation, $100,000 from Venezuela, and $20,000 from the so-called Committee for Free and Democratic Elections based in Miami."

The program participants discuss human rights violations; criticizes the heads of state who are subservient to orders from the U.S. Government; criticize the bidding procedures of the Canal Commission, which discriminate against companies linked to the current government; and conclude with the reading of a poem submitted by a Chiriqui peasant that fiercely rejects U.S. intervention.

Foreign Minister Swears In New Deputy Minister

PA2610030789 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 20 Oct 89

[Text] Abelardo Carles, the new deputy foreign minister, was sworn in today in the Ricardo J. Alfaro room at the Foreign Relations Ministry. The ceremony was presided by Panamanian Foreign Minister Leonardo Kam and was attended by high-ranking foreign relations officers. When officially presenting the new deputy foreign minister, the Panamanian foreign minister said that his top aide takes up this post at a crucial moment, just when a special offensive needs to be developed to counter the U.S. Government's huge disinformation campaign against Panama. However, Kam said, due to Carles' work capacity, he is sure Panama will come out ahead.

The new deputy foreign minister, who once successfully held the post of Panama's ambassador to Ecuador, said when accepting this post that he is aware of the times the country is going through, which will serve to decide if Panama will be free in 11 years or if Panama will need to wait 75 or 100 years before becoming completely free. Carles added that the struggle is tough when one faces such a powerful enemy as the United States. Above all, Panama needs to tell the world the facts about its struggle, and he is prepared for this.

Price Control Office Set To Lower Prices

PA2610011489 Panama City LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 18 Oct 89 pp 2, 8

[Text] Jorge Tason, General Director of the Price Control Office (ORP) has said that "a war commission has been formed in the ORP to reduce the prices of various pharmaceuticals and basic products."

The war commission, comprised of the different technical directorates of the ORP, came about because of Tason's initiative at a meeting held with the board of directors on 14 October.

Tason said that the work team's main tasks will be to make technical studies, as quickly as possible, to evaluate the profit margins of the pharmaceuticals and to propose ways to reduce the prices of these products.

In addition, the work team will seek ways to start to control the prices of certain staples that were exempted from price control mechanisms since 1986 because of pressure and other measures by financial organizations such as the World Bank.

Tason added that a list of agricultural products that are not currently under the ORP price regulation system—such as carrots, cabbage, lettuce, cucumber, and green peppers, among others—will be made so that the Agricultural Development Ministry (MIDA) can set the support price for the producers of these products.

"The ORP will not be able to effectively control the price to the consumer and put an end to the middlemen's explotation of producers until the MIDA has set the support price of these agricultural products," Tason added.

Group Formed To Consolidate Tenets of Torrijism

PA2610030489 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 19 Oct 89

[Text] A large number of political and community leaders announced in Panama City the formation of the Institutional Patriotic Movement [Movimiento Institucional Patriotico], based on the tenets of the 11 October 1968 revolution. The new movement, led by Luis de Leon Arias, Jose Vasquez, Rafael Sequeira, Blanca Castro, Yung Chang Lee, Dania Reyes, and Rolando Monte seeks to consolidate the Torrijist system of mass representation and nationalist struggle to see that Panama's status as a free, independent, and sovereign nation is recognized. This movement also supports maintaining the politically representative and participative system and national harmony.

FENASEP Leader Concerned Over New Measures

PA2510232889 Panama City Telemetro Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 18 Oct 89

[Text] The national directorate of the National Federation of Associations of Public Employees [FENASEP] met this afternoon to review the measures recently adopted by the central government. FENASEP spokesmen said the public employees' stability is vital, and that they are paying attention to what is happening and the possibility of dismissals. Gerardo Gonzalez, FENASEP secretary general of the Colon Province chapter, voiced his concern over the government measures that affect the public employees.

[Begin Gonzalez recording] We must point out that public employees in Colon have not abandoned their patriotic stance. However, it is contradictory for the government to ask them to take a patriotic stance while making the lowest paid employees of the province, and the country, suffer the consequences of these measures. We are really urging all of the Colon Province employees to remain united. We will demand the national FENASEP leadership to adopt a realistic, independent, and critical attitude. We repeat, Colon Province public employees must maintain their strong unity to defend their interests as state employees. [end recording]

Argentina

Menem Minimizes U.S. Decision on Arms Embargo

PY2510174989 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1500 GMT 25 Oct 89

[Excerpts] President Carlos Menem has visited the facilities of the TAMSE [Medium Argentine Tank Factory, State Enterprise] plant, which produces a medium-size tank. At the plant, the president talked with employees, technicians, and workers, telling them that this is one of the plants that he wants to reactivate. [passage omitted]

The president talked to reporters about military issues.

Dr Menem minimized a U.S. House resolution which recently refused to authorize the sale of arms to Argentina. Menem said that weapon transactions will continue because human rights are now respected in our country. [passage omitted]

Concerning the support that President George Bush has expressed for the economic plan, Menem said: I think his remarks are very good, because they promote the integration process in the Americas. [passage omitted]

Ambassador to U.S. Reports on Meeting With Bush

PY2510175289 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1500 GMT 25 Oct 89

[Text] U.S. President George Bush has promised to extend tangible support to the Argentine Government's economic plan on issues such as the foreign debt. Bush said that the Argentine president's political decision to normalize relations with Great Britain is a very healthy measure. This information was supplied this morning from Washington by Argentine Ambassador to the United States Guido di Tella. The ambassador, who presented his credentials to the U.S. President, said that the meeting with Bush was very substantial. The ambassador said that Bush told him that Argentina is producing a change in Latin America which will be reflected throughout the continent.

President Menem Addresses Grain Market

PY2510165089 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 2356 GMT 24 Oct 89

[Speech by President Carlos Menem marking the 135th anniversary of the Buenos Aires Grain Market at the market headquarters in Buenos Aires—live]

[Excerpts] Mr President of the Grain Market, civilian, military, and church authorities, your excellency the apostolic nuncio, ladies and gentlemen—brothers and sisters of the rural areas and cities, brothers and sisters of the productive Argentina. [passage omitted]

A few days ago, to be more exact in Las Lenas, Mendoza, as I started my speech I said I would be somewhat harsh—not offensive—in view of the situation that the Argentine Republic is presently experiencing. I want to talk in the same way now, in the same sincere manner, with the same frankness, because it is part of a style and political personality that has at least given me the chance to directly and clearly reach those who want to listen to me, those to whom my messages are addressed. I do not want to repeat what I have already said, but I have taken the liberty of writing a few lines on the role that capital should play at this crucial moment for the Argentine Republic and its people.

I believe that these brief thoughts ratify a firm, decisive, unwavering, constant, and permanent commitment to implement our productive revolution.

Therefore, I want to start by emphatically reasserting one of the main pillars on which to build our revolution. So that there may be no doubts, no hesitation, I want to once again firmly point out, with great conviction and the certainty that I will not be deceived, that our belief in Argentina's rural areas is stronger than ever. [applause]

Our belief in Argentina's rural areas continues to be a source of hope, and this belief is not negotiable. In sum, our belief in Argentina's rural areas is not against anyone but rather in favor of a great objective: development, growth, and the increasing well-being of the great majority of the Argentine citizens.

You are all aware of the basic guidelines of our agricultural and livestock policy. You support them and witness them every day.

Today, while addressing a group of cooperativists—some of whom are here now—I emphatically stated that we must definitely abandon our perverse duel of rural area versus city in order to be able to integrate these productive sectors into a fruitful course of action because we do not believe in the erroneous theory that the fatherland ends at a fence or that the fatherland ends at the shutters of an industrial factory. [passage omitted]

The main observation I want to make refers to a important concept which we Argentines do not fully understand. I am talking about the concept of capitalism. Most of us regard capitalism as a word full of prejudices, ideologies, sectarianisms, and biased interests—should they belong to groups, political parties, classes, or enterprises. Most of us use capitalism to suit our own needs, forgetting the great challenge represented by this sound, fair, developed, and efficient system for Argentina.

Someone correctly said, and this is quite true, that Argentina is a country with unplanned socialism and with capitalism without a market. It is a funny mixture of vaguenesses, contradictions, crossroads, and contrasting projects. It is a great hybrid. It is a gray and confusing zone. It is a model which is as neutral as it is ineffective, as paradoxical as it is unfair, and as absurd as it is decadent.

Ezequiel Martinez in his book "X-Ray of the Pampa" described Argentina as a country in which initiative, invention, and altruistic courage is not encouraged.

Argentina is a country in which thought and good faith are regarded as obstacles and a matter of risk.

In sum, today we can say that Argentina has still not drawn up a development model. A model which faithfully, and clearly fits the concept of capitalism.

Because I regard myself a Justicialist, adapted to the new times, modern-minded when it comes to solving problems, and because I defend the interests of my people and my fatherland, I do not mind openly saying that I do not fear world capitalism whatsoever; I do not fear the idea of seriously and definitely consolidating a capitalist model that will entail clear, transparent, durable rules with broad social justice and solidarity.

By no means do I fear the possibility of equal opportunity, competition, risk, investment, betting, and enterprises. It is well worth reminding the daydreamers who hang onto the past and the doomsayers who were defined by the 3-time president of the Argentine people, General Peron, who said that when the Justicialist song speaks of fighting capital, it refers to the capital that we now want to fight. We want to fight usurious, profit-seeking, unproductive capital. In no way, Peron added, do we intend to fight the capital that serves the people, that helps to create new jobs, and that helps to build the well-being of the fatherland.

The construction of a genuine capitalist model obviously implies a genuine cultural revolution in Argentina, because our country has remarkably distorted principles, concepts, and projects.

Let us not deceive ourselves. There is no true capitalism in our fatherland; there is at best a parody, a caricature of capitalism.

Gentlemen, what we have here is an invalid system marked by corruption, speculation, and injustice. There is no capitalism in a country in which the state turns out more than 50 percent of the goods and services. There is no capitalism in a system which has an overdimensioned state that has become an antique. There is no capitalism in a country where the state, instead of fulfilling its function, engages in secondary and superfluous activities.

The above is all true. Yet it is also true that we have laid the groundwork for deep structural reforms. Courage and certainty are necessary for those reforms.

Excuse me for saying this: I have both the courage and the certainty to implement all the tasks that may be necessary to change the history of the Argentine Republic. [Applause]

Yet all this is only part of the problem, one side of the question. The other side is that, in Argentina, genuine capitalism is utopian, because there can be no capitalism if the private sector becomes used to privilege. There can be no capitalism if each enterprise considers that the state is a source of funds, which are unfortunately on many occasions illegally obtained. There can be no capitalism if tax evasion has become the rule and if the state is normally expected to pay inflated prices for its purchases. There can be no capitalism if risks are not taken, if competition is detested, and if new undertakings are belittled. There can be no capitalism if money is easily earned through financial speculation and easily lost through the productive sector.

In other words, there can be no capitalism if freedom, which is mankind's most sacred gift, is tarnished and misused. Freedom does not mean the transfer of wealth abroad, following the easiest path, obtaining illegitimate earnings, promoting cheating, dirty deals, financial speculation, and bribery. Freedom does not mean starving.

Consequently, I would like to reiterate that our position is neither lukewarm, nor dubious, nor fearful. Our position seeks to build a system in which work—the work of businessmen and workers, the work of each and every Argentine engaged in productive activities—rather than any other economic activity, receives the highest compensation.

To reach this objective it is necessary to eliminate restraints on national life, use all our productive energy, and end the privilege of some sectors in which political, business, and sectorial interest are frequently intertwined.

The state must be reformed. You should understand perfectly well that the state must be reformed, not to destroy it but to put it back on its feet, to rebuild it and to transform it into a tool at the service of national defense, instead of being at the service of officials, of the executive branch, or of whomever happens to be in power.

Yet I reiterated that these changes will be nothing but an illusion if we do not count on the private sector's efforts and initiative.

There is no point in reforming the state if old vices and corruption are not eliminated, if we do not eliminate the comfort-seeking attitude of millions of Argentines who have the responsibility of assuming a historical, essential role.

I know very well that all reforms involve risks. Great nations were not built without creative risks, without strong aspirations for greatness.

I therefore want to once again summon you. I want to renew the confidence that I have in all of you as the driving force and the essential factor of the reform.

I would like to reiterate a decision which I assumed before God and before my people from the very beginning, from my first day as Argentine president. I will say it again: I will not be the manager of a crisis, I will not be the representative of a decaying society, I will not be the sad facade of a country in misfortune. In sum, I am not going to turn Argentina into a populist system with empty pockets, because I know you are committed to this endeavor. You know that if you want to reap benefits you have to work.

I ask you to support me and to help me with this task. We know that there are difficulties. Will there be problems? Of course there will. Will there be obstacles? It cannot be otherwise. Will there be protest, complaints, and lament? Naturally there will. Yet all those expressions will be like the crackle of an old country that is dying under the burden of the crisis, under the weight of history, an old country in which a paralyzed, inefficient, unfair, and intolerable system is collapsing. Argentina can permit many attitudes but not this one: To build its future without work and effort. As I have repeatedly put it, the party is over and we can no longer gamble on the future of our children. It is high time for us to realize in our hearts the old and wise adage that says: he who sows the wind shall reap the whirlwind, and he who sows work shall reap faith, greatness, and hope. [passage omitted]

Cavallo Briefs Senators on Falklands Negotiations

PY2510201189 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1715 GMT 25 Oct 89

[Text] Buenos Aires, 25 Oct (NA)—Foreign Minister Domingo Cavallo today held a closed-door meeting with members of the Senate Foreign Affairs Committee to brief Senate leaders on the results of the Argentine-UK talks in Madrid last week.

The foreign minister was accompanied by Lucio Garcia del Solar, head of the Argentine negotiating team at the Madrid talks. The meeting lasted more than 2 hours.

At the end of the meeting Cavallo said that Argentina will again ask the United Nations to include the Malvinas Islands issue on the agenda of next year's General Assembly. Cavallo added, however, that whether discussions take place or not will depend on the progress of the negotiations. The issue of the Malvinas Islands was placed on the UN agenda this year but it was not voted on—for the first time since 1982. The UN General Assembly decided instead to ask the parties to negotiate as they had already begun talks.

Cavallo stressed that "the strategy we are following is the most effective way to recover our sovereign rights over the Malvinas Islands." Cavallo made these statements at the end of a briefing with the Senate Foreign Affairs Committee on the results of the Argentine-UK talks in Madrid last week.

Cavallo reported that Chamber of Deputies President Alberto Pierri has also invited him to report to the Chamber of Deputies on this issue, but a date has not been set.

Cavallo said that during the report to the senators "I did not receive any of the criticism that has been made public" through the media. He pointed out that a preliminary "agreement" had been reached with the senators. He noted that the agreements that have been attained are ultimately aimed at recovering sovereignty over the islands and that, for the time being, the agreements serve "to maintain commercial and financial relations with the United Kingdom." The foreign minister also confirmed that the government will submit a bill to Congress establishing the limits of the territorial sea and of Argentina's exclusive economic zone in the South Atlantic.

Cavallo emphasized that the possibility of recovering the Malvinas "is now closer than before" the negotiations took place. He noted that through the "umbrella" formula both Argentina and the United Kingdom have been able to reserve their positions on their sovereignty claims.

Cavallo noted that in this initial stage of the negotiations "Argentina has achieved much in its favor"; for example, the "half-moon" zone in the southwest part of the military protection zone is now under Argentine control. He also reiterated that Argentine merchant ships will be able to enter the 150-mile military zone established by the British around the Malvinas.

Cavallo said that "the presence of British troops and a military fortress is a matter of concern for our country and will continue to be discussed" by the working group created in Madrid to develop measures to prevent military incidents.

The foreign minister reiterated that "there are no restrictions" on Argentines traveling to the Malvinas. He said, however, that the Kelpers are not interested in Argentine citizens going there.

In response to a question, Cavallo again pointed out that President Carlos Menem is willing to meet with British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, but that no agreement to do so had been reached.

UCR [Radical Civic Union] Senator Adolfo Gass said that "the philosophy of this government is different from the philosophy of the government of former President Raul Alfonsin" because "we stated the need to begin talks without any preconditions." Gass noted that the "umbrella" formula was negotiated by former Foreign Minister Dante Caputo in 1988 but "we could not implement it because the British authorities did not know if free elections were to be held in Argentina and they distrusted the stability of our democracy."

Jose Romero Feris, a senator for the Autonomist Party of Corrientes, has said that he is optimistic about the future of Argentine-British relations, but pointed out that "the main goal is to recover sovereignty over the islands."

Former Foreign Minister Juan Ramon Aguirre Lanari described Cavallo's report as "interesting" and noted that "a long and difficult road" to recover the Malvinas "still lies ahead."

Water Cannon, Tanks at Union Headquarters

PY2510183389 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1805 GMT 25 Oct 89

[Text] Buenos Aires, 25 Oct (NA)—A water cannon and three small tanks of the infantry guard of the Federal

Police have been deployed in front of the Construction Workers Union of the Argentine Republic (UOCRA), at 42 Rawson Street, in Buenos Aires, to prevent possible disturbances.

Two groups of union activists led by Alejo Farias and Gerardo Martinez, respectively, are in the vicinity of the area awaiting a court decision ordering the reopening of the building, which was closed by Federal Judge Juan Fegoli.

Fishing Deputy Secretary Sotero in Soviet Union

PY2510174689 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1500 GMT 25 Oct 89

[Text] A delegation of Argentine businessmen headed by Fishing Deputy Secretary Luis Sotero is now in the Soviet Union to discuss the basic guidelines for fishing agreements between the two countries.

Medellin Cartel Investments in Uruguay Reported

PY2510142489 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1410 GMT 24 Oct 89

[Text] Buenos Aires, 24 Oct (EFE)—Alberto Lestelle, the drug addiction prevention secretary from Argentina, has reported that Colombian Medellin Cartel drug traffickers "have invested millions of dollars in real estate in Uruguay."

In statements published in today's AMBITO FINANCIERO, Lestelle warned that "the fact that the Medellin Cartel has come so close is very dangerous."

According to Lestelle, the Colombian drug traffickers "are gauging our reaction, but have not entered Argentina yet."

Lestelle believes that the struggle carried out against drug traffickers by the Colombian Government has forced them to look for other countries where they can proceed with their activities. He also reasserted that "the time for discussing the criminal nature of drug possession has passed." Lestelle then added: "That long philosophical argument granted a period when 8-year old children began sniffing glue, 10-year old children began smoking marijuana, 15-year old youngsters began stealing from their parents to buy marijuana, and 17-year old youths began stealing tape-recorders so that they could get drugs."

Alberto Lestelle was one of the mainsprings behind the new Argentine law on narcotics promulgated 2 months ago, which increased penalties for drug traffickers and made drug consumption a crime.

Chile

PCCh Secretary Disavows Violence Policy

PY2510182089 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 25 Oct 89

[Text] PCCh [Communist Party of Chile] Secretary General Volodia Teitelboim has affirmed that the PCCh does not support political violence but it does peacefully support Patricio Aylwin as a presidential candidate. Teitelboim reiterated that the orchestrated counterdemonstrations and the violence of the electoral process must not be blamed on the PCCh.

[Begin Teitelboim recording] We are not in favor of a policy of violence nor do we have any participation in the counterdemonstrations that are staged to support candidates of the regime. We have never discussed them at the executive level, nor have instructions to that effect ever been given. Now, some decisions might be spontaneously made by the rank and file, but those decisions are not dictated by hatred. [end recording]

Teitelboim said that the communists are looking forward to supporting the future democratic government from the outside—without participating in that government. He also pointed out that the PPCh has decided to explicitly support Ricardo Lagos as candidate for senator, as well as all those PPD [Coalition of Parties for Democracy] candidates for deputies who are not running against Communist candidates in their districts.

Polar Expedition To Climb Mount Vinson

PY2510182989 Santiago Doemstic Service in Spanish 0930 GMT 25 Oct 89

[Excerpts] Tomorrow the Chilean Air Force [FACh] will begin the sixth phase of its polar expedition. This was reported by Colonnel Juan Bastias, chief of the FACh Antarctic Department, who reported that two Twin Otter planes will go from Punta Arenas to Teniente Marsh base, and then to Teniente Carvajal base from where they will transport a team of Chilean mountain climbers to climb Mount Vinson, which is 5,200 meters high and the highest mountain in the Antarctic.

[Begin Bastias recording] [Passage omitted] We plan to send scientists and FACh personnel to explore different places and to become acquainted with all the Antarctic territory that we claim.

This year we will provide logistic support to the first Chilean expedition that will climb the highest mount in the Antarctic. This is Mount Vinson, located on the Ellsworth Mountain Range. In November a team from the Chilean-Italian Club will climb Mount Vinson with FACh support. Given the fact that this is a professional moutnaineering team, I am sure that the expedition will be a total success. It will be the first Chilean team to climb this mountain. [end recording]

The Chilean airplanes will try to land on different glaciers on Adelaide Island to establish operations points and possible new Chilean bases. Col Bastias said that these operations are important for the preparation of a Chilean polar route and to assert Chilean sovereignty in the Antarctic.

Comparison of 'Pinochet's High Command Reshuffle

PY1810160089

Santiago LA TERCERA DE LA HORA in Spanish on 10 October on page 7 carries a report on the reshuffle of the Chilean Army High Command. This report has been compared with 'Pinochet Reshuffles Army High Command,' published in the 10 October Latin America DAILY REPORT, page 70, allowing the clearing of the following names:

Page 70, column one, paragraph four from bottom, first line, make name and title read...Brigadier General Hector Darrigrandi as the new Army director of personnel...

Same page, same column, last paragraph, last line, make name and title read...Brigadier General Luis Henriquez as director of logistics...

Page 70, column two, paragraph six, first line, make read...The following officers have been promoted to the rank of brigadier general: Patricio Varela, Javier Salazar, Carlos Krumm, Jose Carrera, Jorge Lagos, Fernam Kullman, and Fernando Torres.

Same page, column two, paragraph seven, first line, make read...At the same time, the following generals have been retired: Jorge Zincke, Jaime Gonzalez, Mario Navarrete, Eduardo Castelloni, Julio Andrade, Helmut Kraushaar, Mario Renato Varela, Oscar Vargas, Miguel Sanchez, Humberto Leiva, Rafael Rios, and Jorge Castro.

Same page, column two, paragraph eight, first line, make read...Major General Patricio Gualda has been appointed director general for national mobilization...

Colombia

Rodriguez Gacha on Ceasing Offensive Actions

PA2510202789 Paris AFP in Spanish 1829 GMT 25 Oct 89

[Text] Bogota—Gonzalo Rodriguez Gacha, alias "The Mexican," a well-known Colombian drug trafficker who is one of the drug lords of the Medellin Cartel has admitted that he is in favor of "ceasing offensive actions against the military forces."

In a letter to the opposition's daily LA PRENSA edited in Bogota, he stressed that "the mission each one of us has as Colombian citizens is to try to restore peace in Colombia."

Rodriguez Gacha, who along with Pablo Escobar, has become one of the country's most wanted men, denied having proposed an alliance with the communist guerrillas of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC).

Only 1 week ago, LA PRENSA reported that Rodriguez Gacha had proposed an alliance with the FARC in order to face the war against drug trafficking declared by Liberal President Virgilio Barco in mid-August.

"The truth is that there is no such letter," said the "capo" for whose head—along with Pablo Escobar—Colombian authorities have offered a reward of 100 million pesos (approximately $250,000).

Rodriguez Gacha also recalled his struggle against the FARC.

Taking advantage of the occasion, the drug trafficker rejected all information stating that he is the "acknowledged perpetrator of all crimes against Patriotic Union (UP)leaders." He added that although he was charged with the murder of Jaime Pardo Leal, "the court's verdict was favorable to me."

Pardo Leal was the founder and first president of UP which was formed in 1984, during a truce signed between FARC and the then social conservative President Belisario Betancur. According to government officials, Pardo Leal was murdered by two paid assassins who received orders from "El Mexicano" on 11 October 1987.

Rodriguez Gacha argued: "Nobody has ever been chased with such fierceness in Colombia as I have." He added: "It seems that all the articles of the penal code have been thrown at me, and my detractors are not bound by any of these rules."

After he insisted that offensives against the Colombian Armed Forces should stop, Rodriguez Gacha noted that those who disturb public order "should definitely stop using weapons."

"These are the first steps that are needed to get Colombians to sit at a negotiating table without excluding anyone," he concluded.

Virgilio Barco's government has rejected all possibility of dialogue with the drug mafias.

Criminals Linked to Medellin Cartel Arrested

PA2510195389 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 2 in Spanish 1758 GMT 25 Oct 89

[Text] During the past few hours in Bogota, the police have arrested four terrorists who worked for the Medellin Cartel.

Jose Noel Barreto Rodriguez was the chief of the urban action group of drug trafficker Rodrigo Gonzalez Gacha. He had been discharged by the national police because of bad conduct. He was in charge of special operations and his experience in intelligence and counterintelligence made him a legend within that criminal organization under the Medellin Cartel. He received direct orders from Rodriguez Gacha on actions to be conducted in Bogota.

Rafael Antonio Hernandez, Barreto Rodriguez' escort, as well as Cesar Augusto Mateo and Nivardo Munoz Triana were also arrested. They were immediately turned over to the corresponding judge.

The group had pistols, beepers, police uniforms, a jeep, a Mazda car, and 8 million pesos in cash. The police also

found a checkbook, receipts for payments made by the criminals and an accounting book in which payments to a group of hired assassins were recorded. In addition, a notebook was found with codes of what could be a list of hired assassins at the service of the drug traffickers and their activities.

ELN Attacks Norte de Santander Villages

PA2610023089 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 2 in Spanish 1730 GMT 25 Oct 89

[Text] Preliminary reports indicate that the villages of La Vega and Cachira in Norte de Santander Department were taken by surprise at 0100 this morning by approximately 100 men belonging to the Army of National Liberation [ELN]. The guerrillas cut telephone communications to La Vega municipality and destroyed the church and the police garrison at Cachira with rocket and rifle fire.

[Begin recording] [General Rafael Padilla, commander of 2d Army Division] One policeman was killed, three or four policemen received light injuries, and one guerrilla was killed. I believe there was nothing much at La Vega. At this moment we are reinforcing the police garrisons at these places. This is the situation as it stands now.

[Reporter] Does it seem that the guerrillas have blown up or blocked the road to Cachira?

[Padilla] It is quite possible, because when this sort of attack takes place the guerrillas usually blow up roads the soldiers could use to reach these places. However, the troops that arrived at Cachira did so by using helicopters. [end recording]

At this moment the villages in the southern part of Cesar Department and most of Ocana Province are without power. This seems to be due to an electric tower that was destroyed.

Ecuador

Brazilian President Arrives on Official Visit

PA2510185289 Paris AFP in Spanish 1758 GMT 25 Oct 89

[Text] Quito, 25 Oct (AFP)—Brazilian President Jose Sarney arrived in Quito today at 1223 local (1723 GMT) on a 28-hour official visit to Ecuador, where he will meet with his counterpart Rodrigo Borja.

Escorted by Ecuadoran Air Force combat planes, the Boeing 737-100 Brazilian presidential plane arrived at the 1st Zone Air Base, where Sarney was welcomed by Borja, Vice President Luis Parodi, cabinet members, diplomatic corps, and civilian, church, and military authorities.

After the national anthems of the two countries were played, Sarney was welcomed with a 21-gun salute and traditional military honors.

This is the first visit to Ecuador by a Brazilian president. Sarney was accompanied by Acting Foreign Minister Paulo Tarso Flecha de Lima and Division General Ruben Bayma Denys, chief of the president's military household.

Brazilian Ambassador to Ecuador Adolpho Correa de sa e Benavides and other top Brazilian Government officials are also part of Sarney's retinue.

Paraguay

Christian Democratic Party Launches Publication

PY2510152689 Asuncion EL DIARIO in Spanish 25 Oct 89 p 8

[Text] The Christian Democratic Party (PDC) has recently launched the TIEMPO NUEVO as the party's monthly official publication. Dr Angel Jose Burro is the provisional director, and Rosa Leguizamon is the editor's office secretary.

Secundino Nunez, Raul Fernandez, Jorge Dario Cristaldo, Fernando Tellechea Yampey, and Mario Ramos Reyes are members of the editorial council.

The newspaper's illustrations will be drawn by Luis Veron.

The newspaper has 8 pages, and in its first issue the editorial is entitled "Transition to Democracy." It also carries some interesting articles.

Judge Orders Extradition of Spanish Citizen

PY2510204589 Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 25 Oct 89 p 58

[Excerpts] Part of the resolution issued this morning by Lower Court Judge Luis Maria Benitez Riera ordering the extradition of Spanish citizen Emilio Hellin Moro reads: "This court agrees with the attorney general's view that no political crime has been committed." Hellin Moro is being held at the Tacumbu Prison. [passage omitted]

INTERPOL agents detained Hellin Moro 2 months ago. His arrest was reported to Spanish authorities, who formally requested his extradition. Hellin Moro has been charged with murdering Yolanda Gonzalez, a student who belonged to a leftist party in Spain.

Hellin Moro has also been charged with having been a member of an ultrarightist gang. He has been sentenced to 34 years in prison for the murder of Yolanda Gonzalez. [passage omitted]

Peru

'Terrorists' Bomb Soviet, PRC Embassies

PY2610110689 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0459 GMT 26 Oct 89

[Text] Lima, 25 Oct (EFE)—Police have reported that terrorists tonight bombed the embassies of the PRC and the Soviet Union. The bombs caused damage but no injuries.

A car bomb exploded in front of the PRC Embassy, which is in the Lima residential district of San Isidro. Meanwhile, two bombs were thrown at a USSR Embassy vehicle that was parked in front of the embassy located in Orrantia District, near San Isidro.

Police said the attacks were carried out almost simultaneously and that the bombs broke windows and destroyed the two vehicles.

No one has claimed responsibility for the attacks so far. Police sources, however, have said the attacks could have been carried out by the Maoist "Shining Path" group or the Guevarist "Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement" (MRTA) group. The sources also said that the Shining Path has attacked Soviet interests in Peru in the past.

In July 1989 the Shining Path bombed a bus carrying nearly 50 Soviet sailors into the port of El Callao. Fifteen Soviet sailors were wounded.

Some 3 years ago two sailors died following a Shining Path bombing of a market used by Soviet sailors.

In another incident 3 years ago, a Shining Path militant was killed by Soviet Embassy guards inside the embassy compound. The terrorist was carrying dynamite.

The attacks today come after Shining Path attacks during which least 10 buses were burned throughout Lima on 24 Oct.

Foreign Minister on Bolivian Sea Outlet Claim

PY2510141289 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 0100 GMT 25 Oct 89

[Text] Prime Minister Larco Cox has said that Peru has already made known its position on the Bolivian sea outlet claim. Larco Cox added that it is the Chilean position that it is not known.

The minister said that the parties involved will have to review the existing treaties before any negotiations can be carried out.

[Begin Cox recording] The answer to the question of whether Peru supports the Bolivian aspiration to a sea outlet is yes. Peru supports the Bolivian claim. This position is not new. It has been expressed before the OAS and the Cartagena Accord.

It has been part of the Peruvian foreign policy for a long time. This support is not ad libitum. The Peruvian support is conditioned to the respect of international law and the established treaties on the matter.

Our position calls for Bolivia to negotiate bilaterally with Chile first. If Chile eventually grants the outlet through the territories that are discussed in the 1929 treaty, Peru would agree to it. Is this new? No, because it is contemplated in the 1929 treaty.

If this had not been the case, an understanding would have not been possible. If the treaty did not anticipate the possibility of an understanding it would not have provided for it. The treaty establishes that Peru has to be consulted if an understanding is reached. The treaty established that we have to consent to it.

We will respect all treaties and will positively express our political position if we are consulted. [end recording]